

GRAPHIC
NOVEL

GODDESS GIRLS

PERSEPHONE THE PHONY

CREATED BY
JOAN HOLUB &
SUZANNE WILLIAMS
ADAPTED BY DAVID CAMPITI



Dear parents, caregivers, and educators:

If you want to get your child excited about reading, you've come to the right place! Ready-to-Read **GRAPHICS** is the perfect launchpad for emerging graphic novel readers.

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- ★ **Compelling stories that star your child's favorite characters**
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Blast off on this starry adventure . . . a universe of graphic novel reading awaits!

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ILLUSTRATED BY EDUARDO GARCIA
AT GLASS HOUSE GRAPHICS

Aladdin

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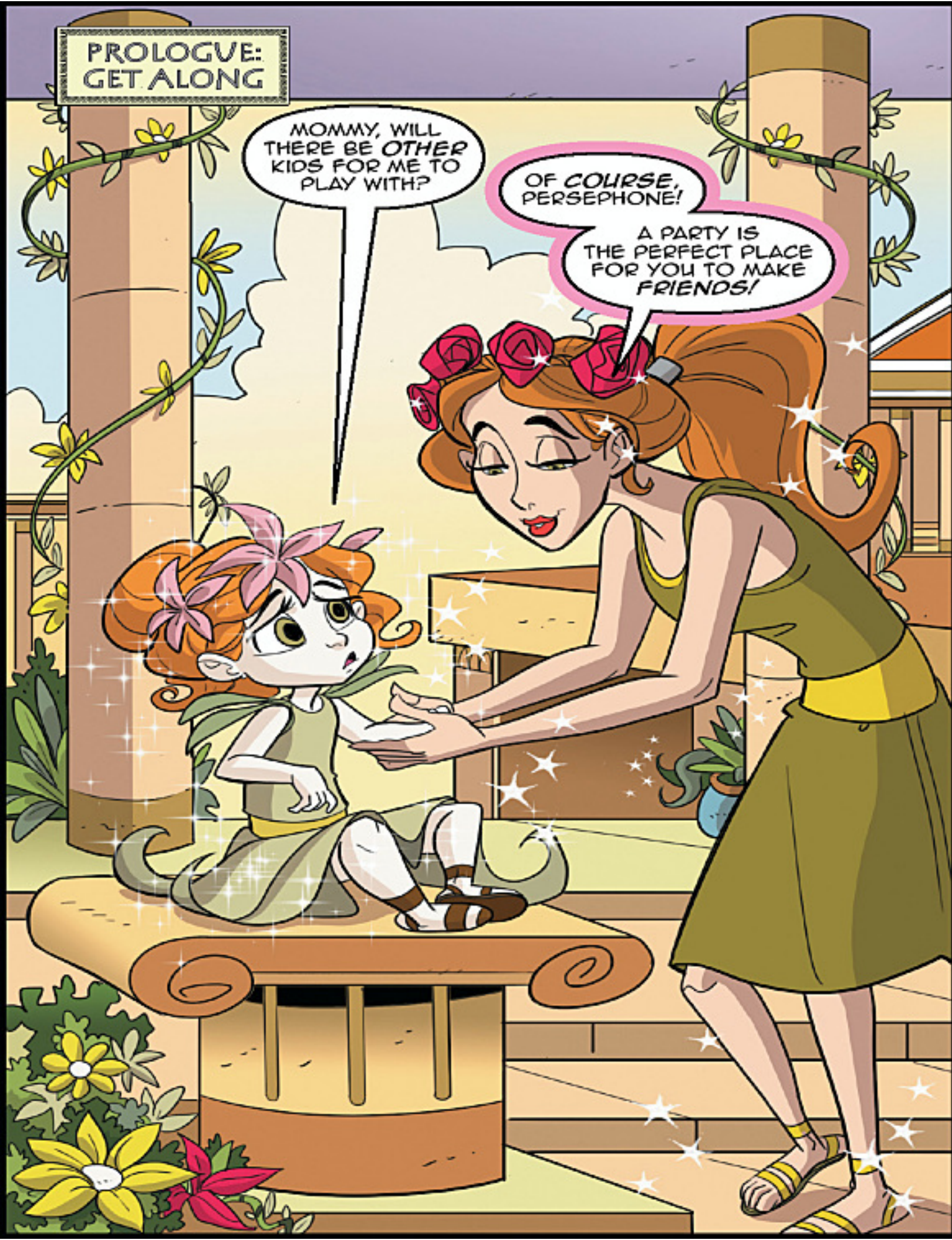
ISBN 978-1-5344-7391-1 (ebook)

PROLOGUE:
GET ALONG

MOMMY, WILL
THERE BE OTHER
KIDS FOR ME TO
PLAY WITH?

OF COURSE,
PERSEPHONE!

A PARTY IS
THE PERFECT PLACE
FOR YOU TO MAKE
FRIENDS!





WOW!

INDEED!
THEY GET FANCIER
EVERY YEAR!

SHE
SAID I STARTED
OFF WITH A LAZY EYE,
BUT IT SPREAD TO MY
WHOLE BODY!

I DON'T
GET IT...

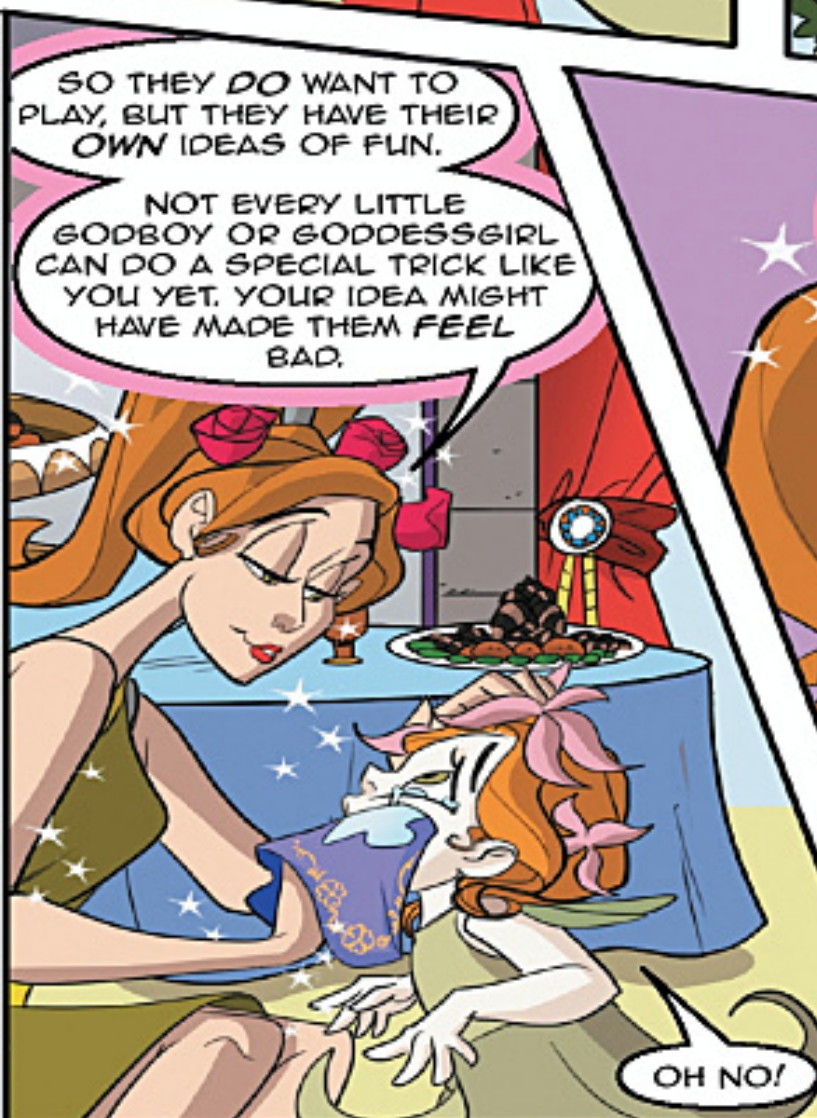


AND SO I
SAID TO ZEUS,
I SAID, "ZEUS,"
I SAID...

I SAW WHAT
HE CARVED ABOUT
ME, AND I WAS
STEAMING!







SEVERAL YEARS LATER

CHAPTER 1: PERCEPTIONS

SOME
PEOPLE SAY
PERCEPTION
IS REALITY.

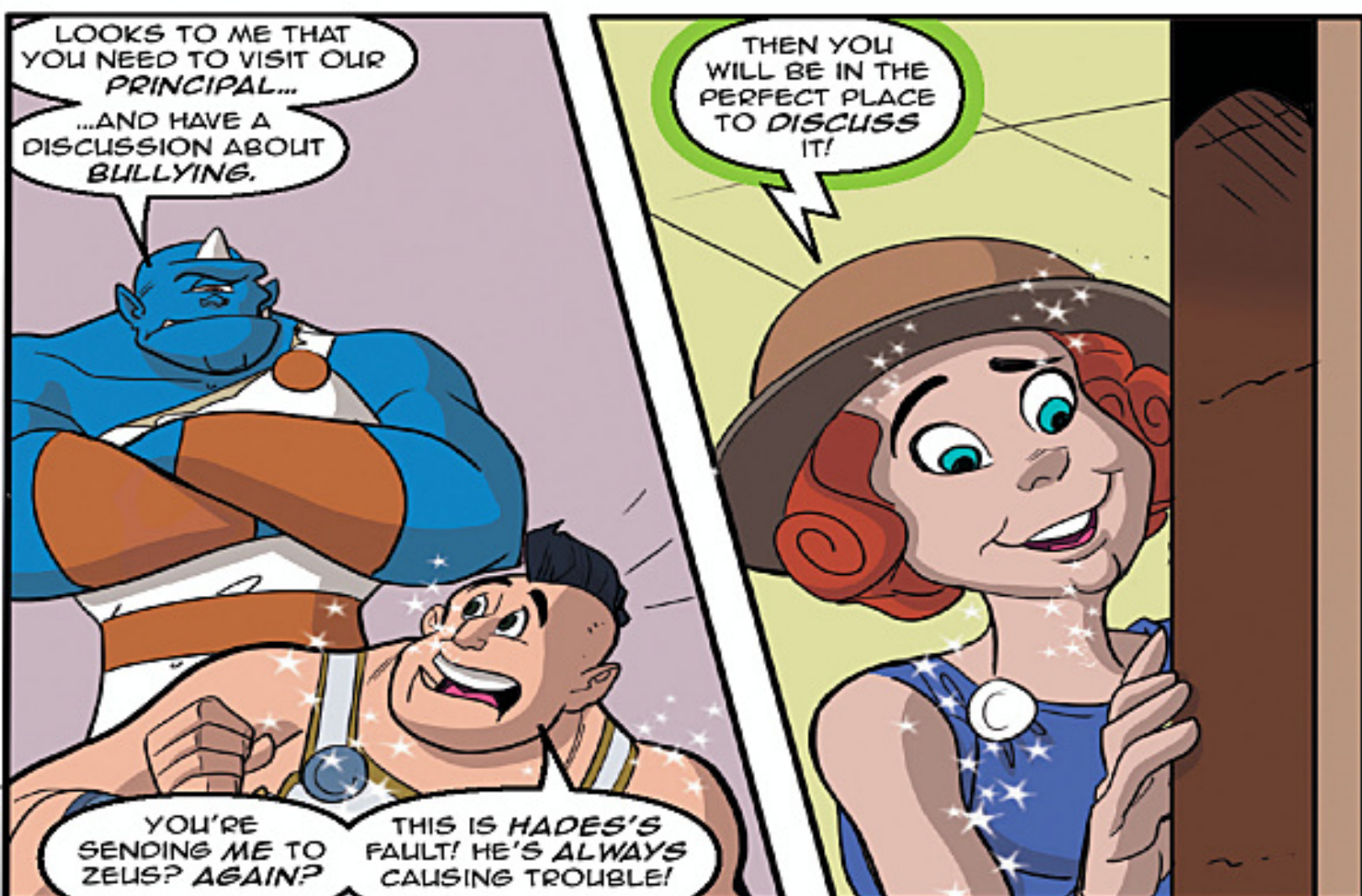
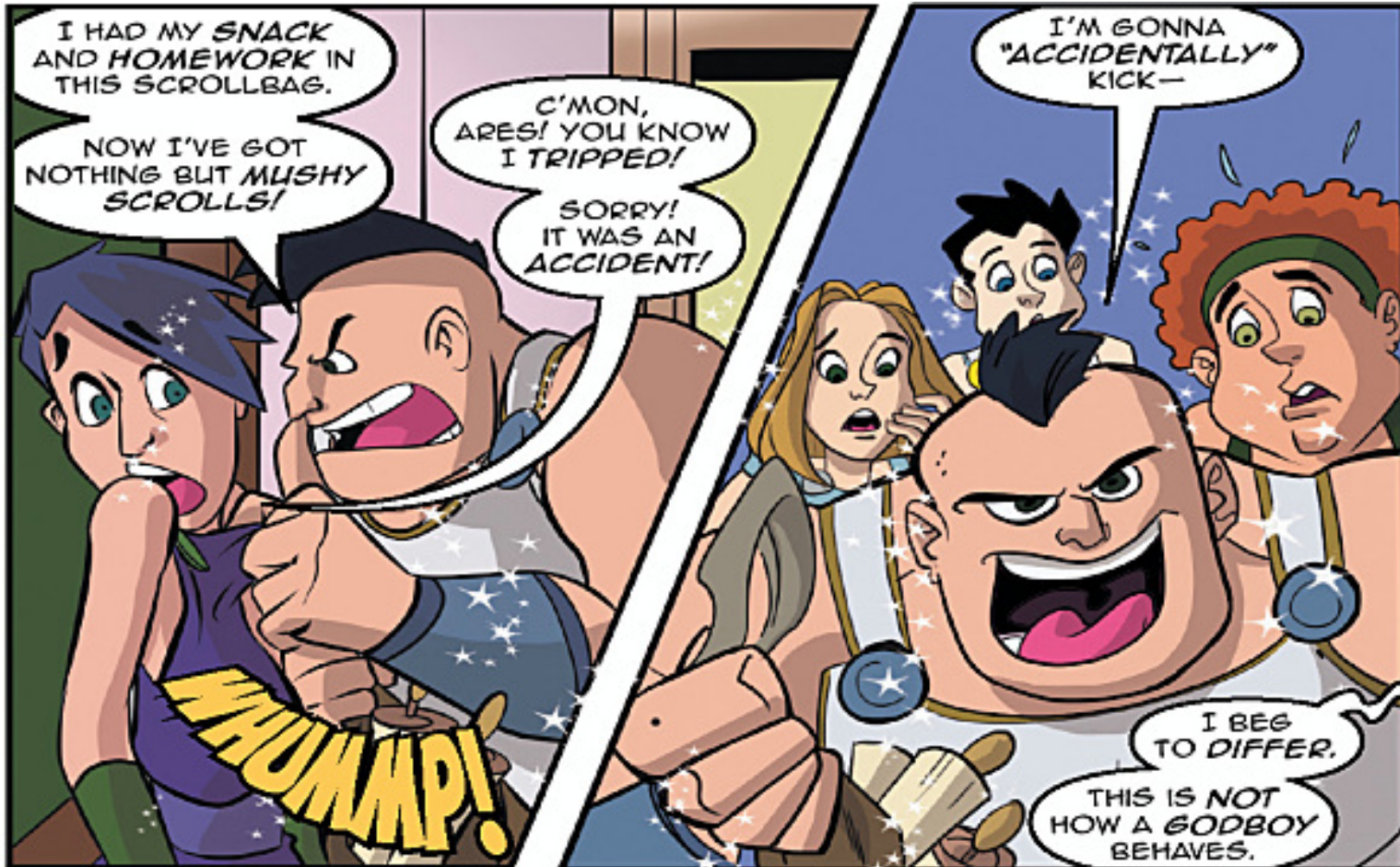
WHOOOPS!

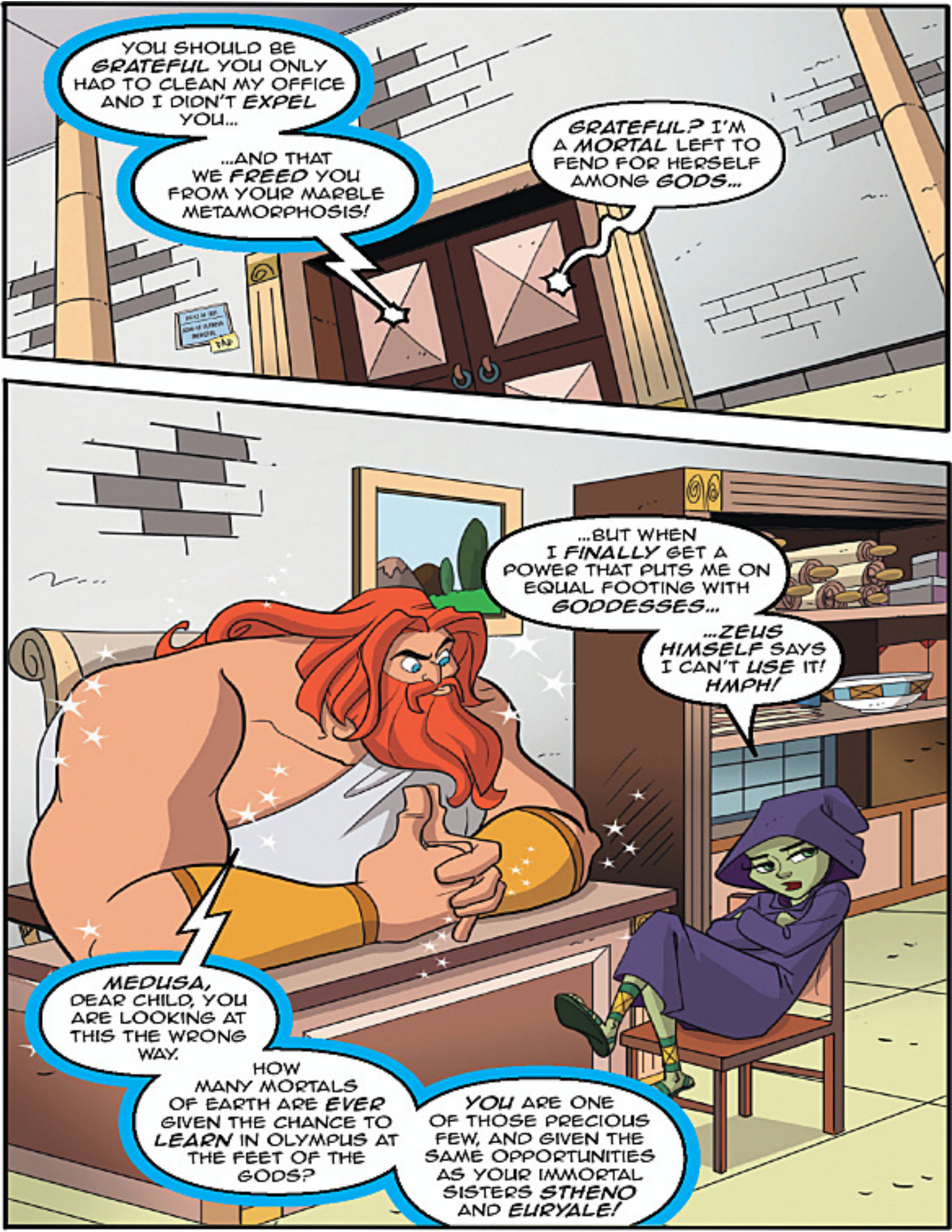
WATCH IT,
HADES!

IF YOU PERCEIVE
YOURSELF AS BEAUTIFUL
AND LOVE YOURSELF
FOR IT ON THE INSIDE, IT
SHOWS ON THE OUTSIDE.

IF YOU PERCEIVE
ANOTHER PERSON AS A
BAD APPLE, THEN, NO MATTER
WHAT THEY DO, YOUR
PERCEPTION IS THEY'RE
DOING IT FOR NEFARIOUS
REASONS.







YOU SHOULD BE **GRATEFUL** YOU ONLY HAD TO CLEAN MY OFFICE AND I DIDN'T **EXPEL** YOU...

...AND THAT WE **FREED** YOU FROM YOUR MARBLE METAMORPHOSIS!

GRATEFUL? I'M A MORTAL LEFT TO FEND FOR HERSELF AMONG **GODS**...

...BUT WHEN I **FINALLY** GET A POWER THAT PUTS ME ON EQUAL FOOTING WITH **GODDESSES**...

...**ZEUS** HIMSELF SAYS I CAN'T USE IT! **HMPH!**

MEDUSA, DEAR CHILD, YOU ARE LOOKING AT THIS THE WRONG WAY.

HOW MANY MORTALS OF EARTH ARE **EVER** GIVEN THE CHANCE TO **LEARN** IN OLYMPUS AT THE FEET OF THE **GODS**?

YOU ARE ONE OF THOSE PRECIOUS FEW, AND GIVEN THE SAME OPPORTUNITIES AS YOUR IMMORTAL SISTERS **STHENO** AND **EURYALE**!



I'M SO SORRY!

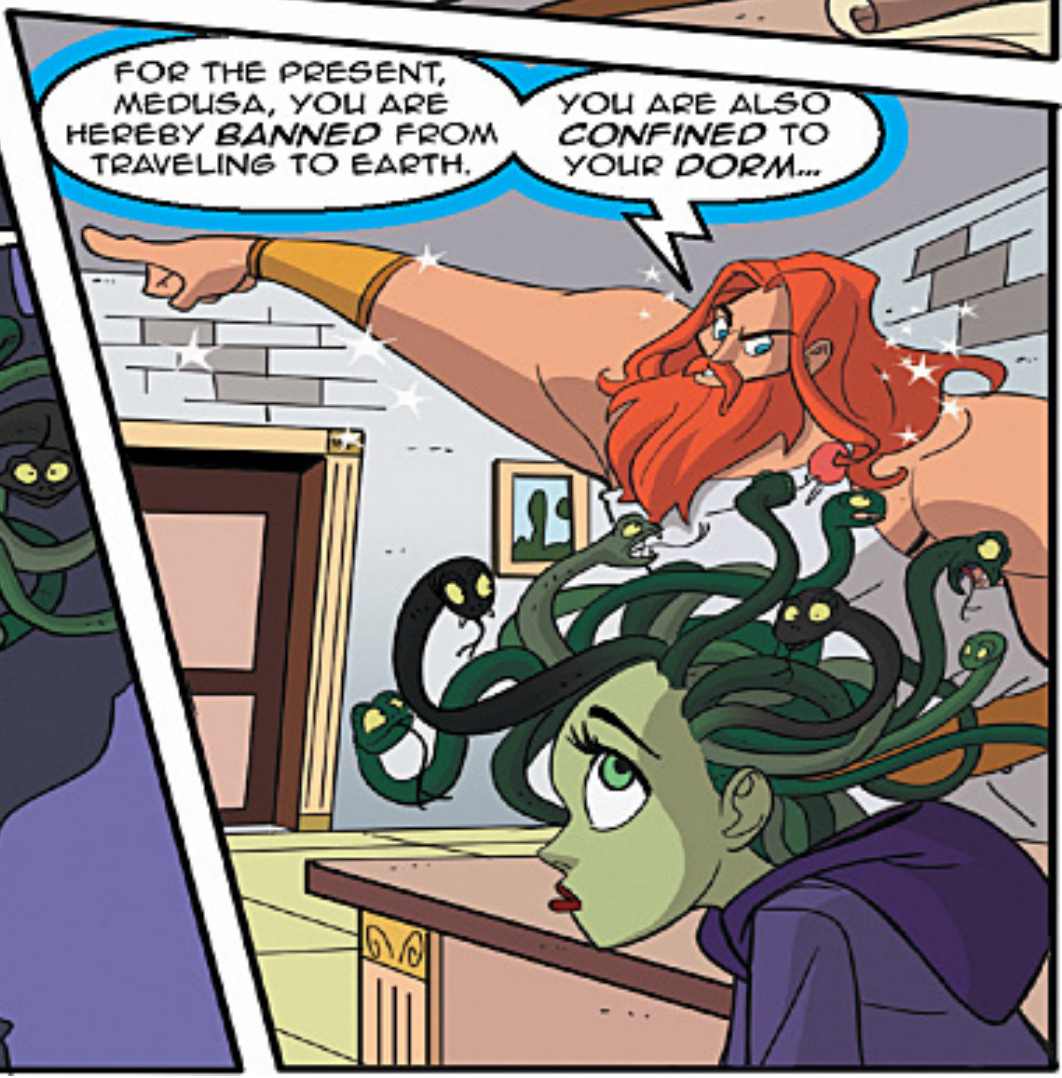


MEDUSA, IN YOUR ANGER YOU ATTACKED YOUR PRINCIPAL...



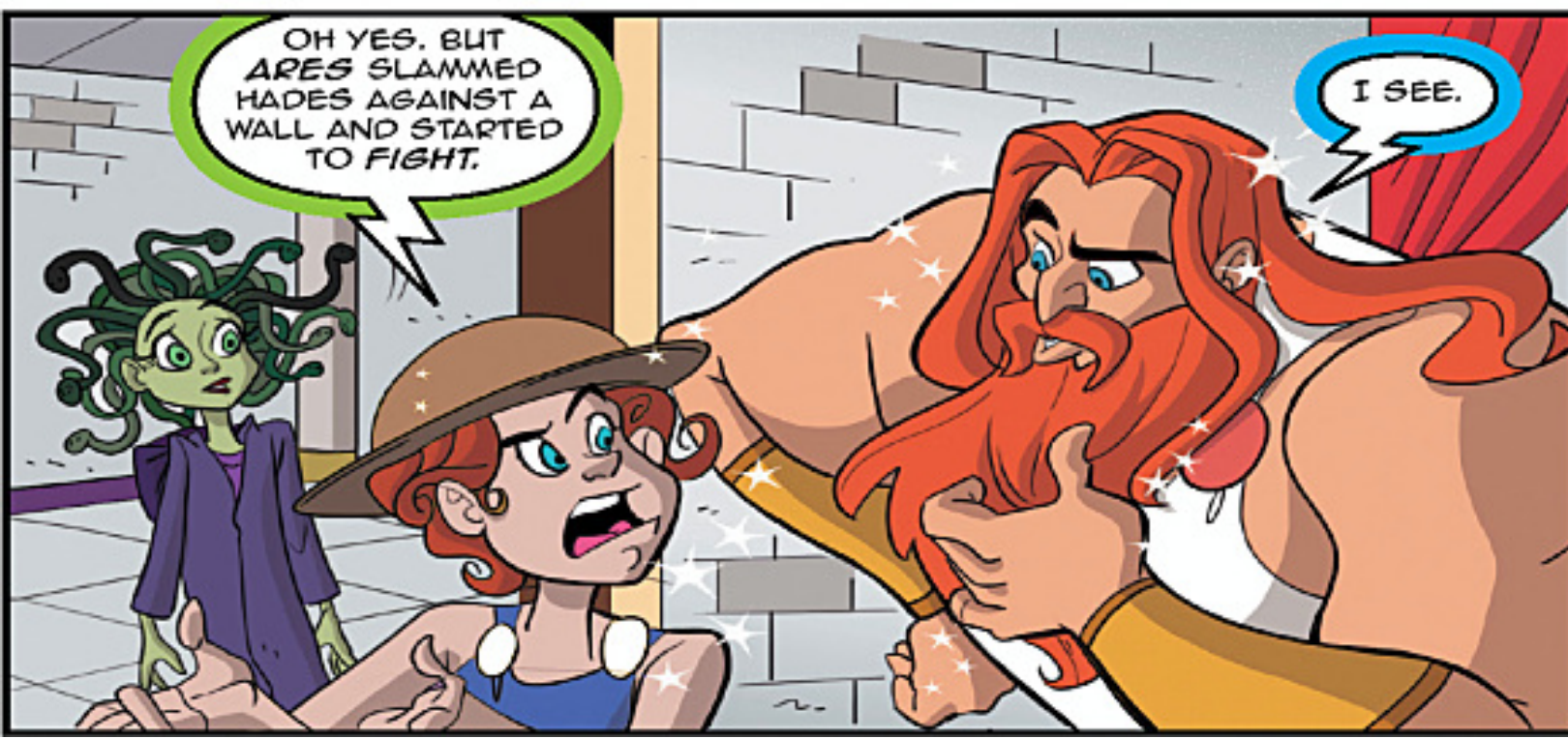
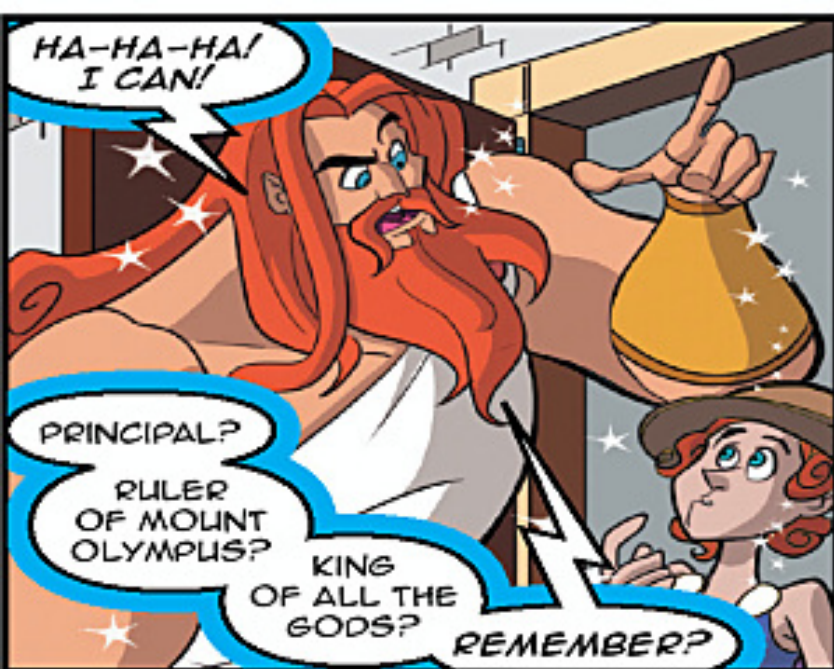
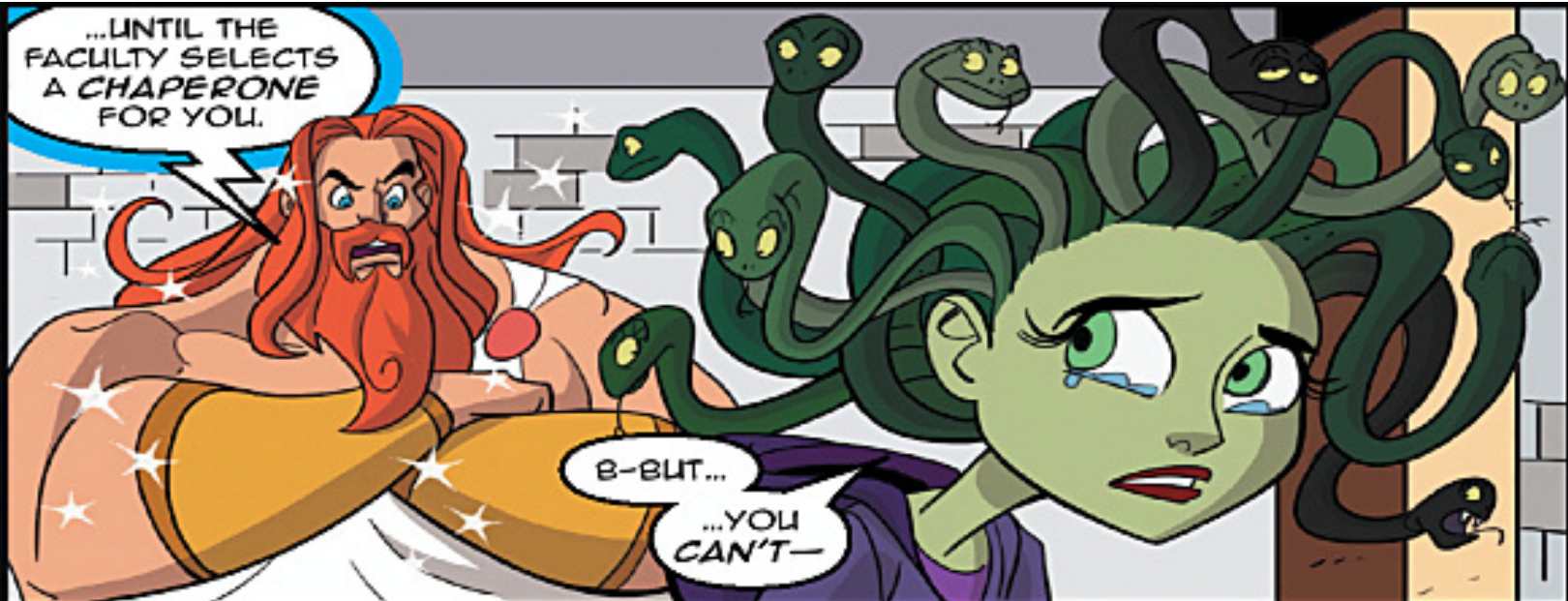
...WHO IS ALSO THE KING OF ALL THE GODS.

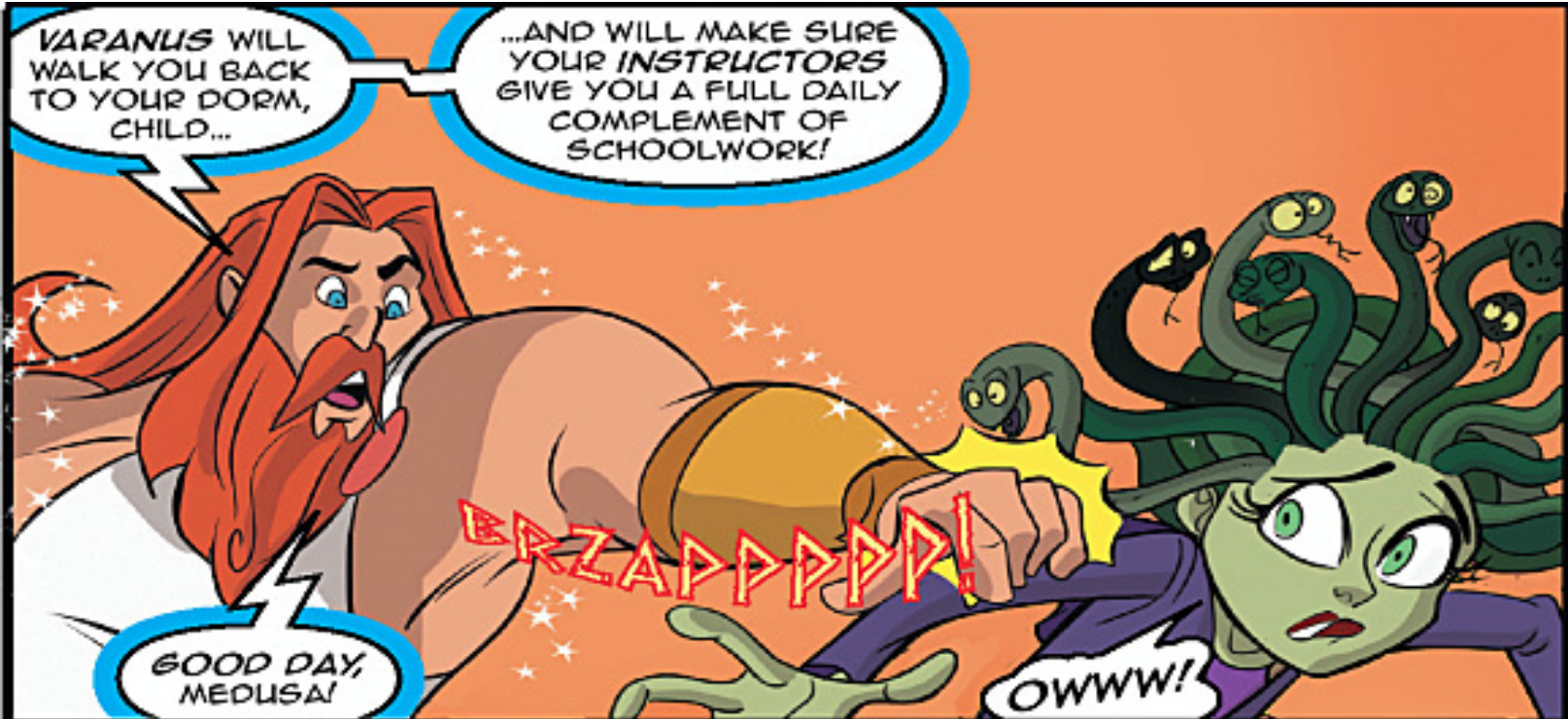
YOU PROVED WHY WE CANNOT LET YOU RUN UNSUPERVISED AND HARM OTHERS.

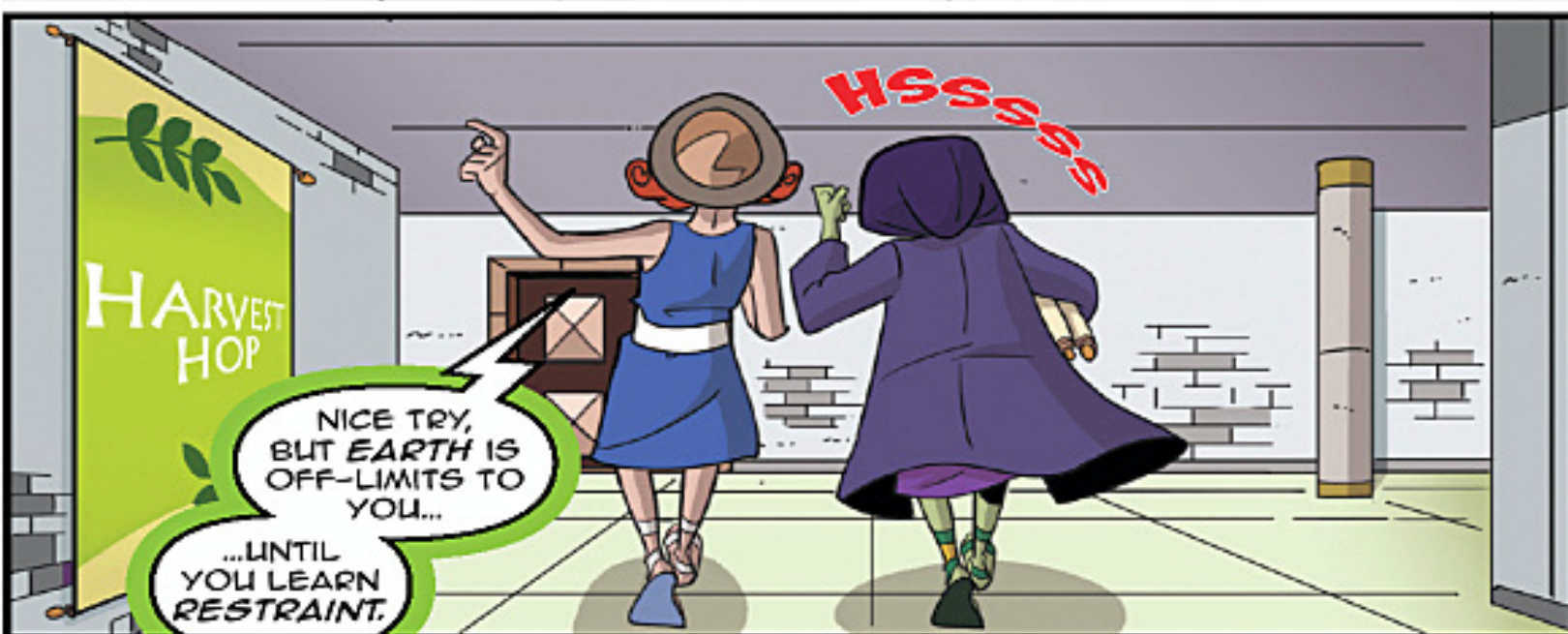


FOR THE PRESENT, MEDUSA, YOU ARE HEREBY BANNED FROM TRAVELING TO EARTH.

YOU ARE ALSO CONFINED TO YOUR DORM...







CHAPTER 2:
THE IMMORTAL
MARKETPLACE

WHO AM I?

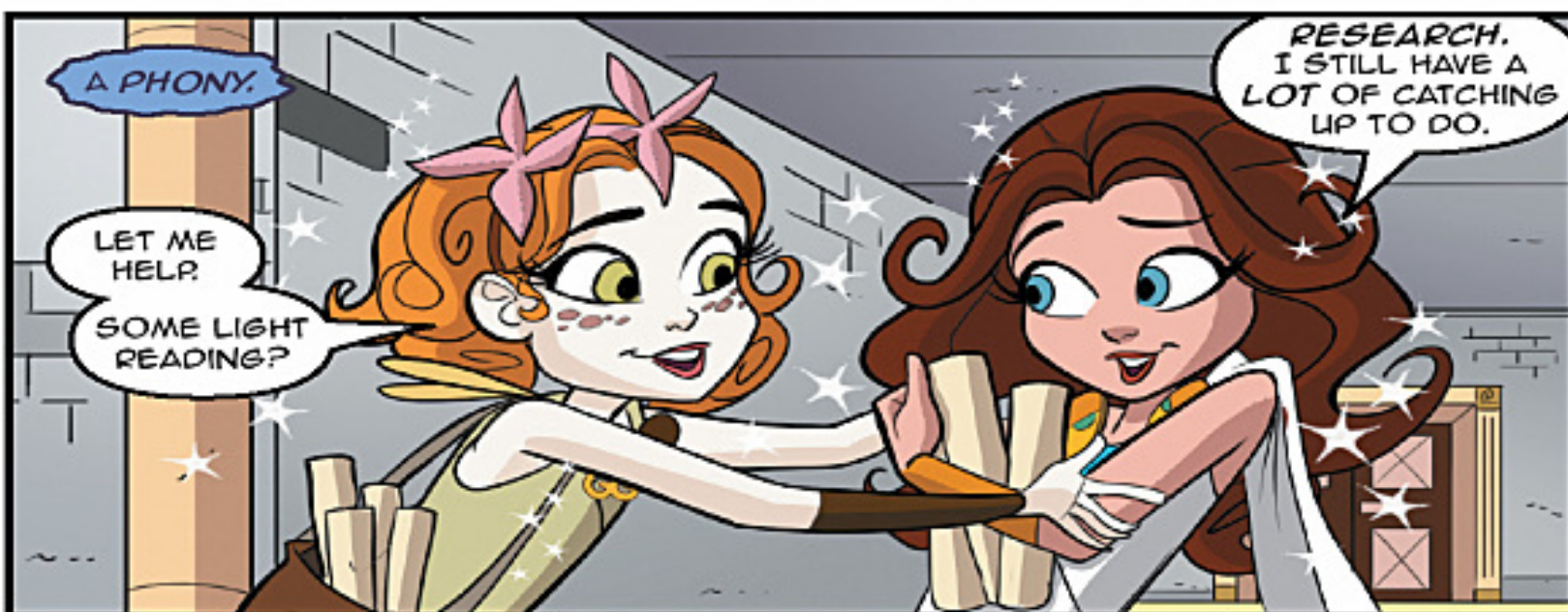
PING!
PING!

I MEAN, I
KNOW THAT MY NAME IS
PERSEPHONE, AND MY
MOM IS *DEMETER*, AND I'M
A *GODDESS* ATTENDING
MOUNT OLYMPUS
ACADEMY.

BUT EVERY
DAY, I FEEL MORE
AND MORE LIKE
I'M PLAYING A
PART.

THAT I'M NOT
REALLY BEING
ME.





ATHENA'S MY YOUNGEST,
BRAINIEST FRIEND—NEW
TO THE WHOLE GODDESS
THING, HONEST, AND TRUE
TO HERSELF.

EVERY DAY I
TAKE IN SOMETHING
NEW HERE.

MOUNT
OLYMPUS
ACADEMY IS SO
INSPIRING!

I
AGREE!

BUT DO I
REALLY?

I SEE THIS STUFF SO
MUCH EVERY DAY, IT
BARELY CONNECTS
WITH ME.

HEY!

WAIT UP!

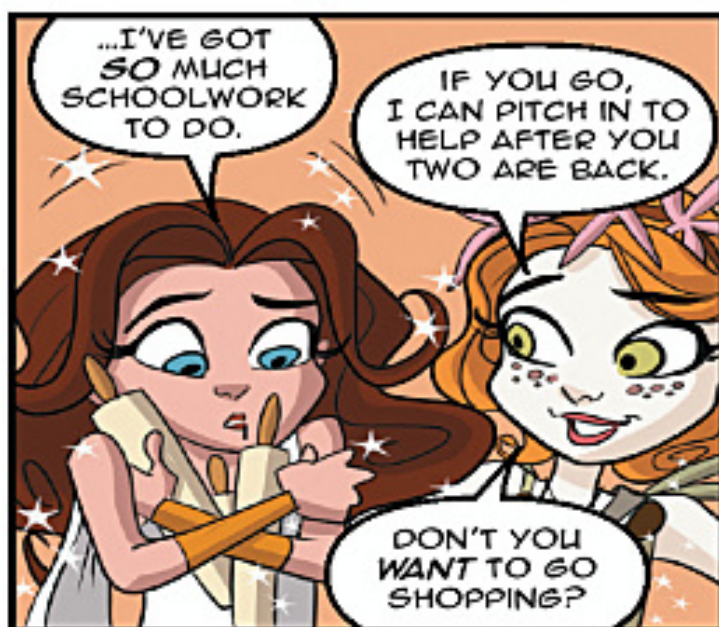
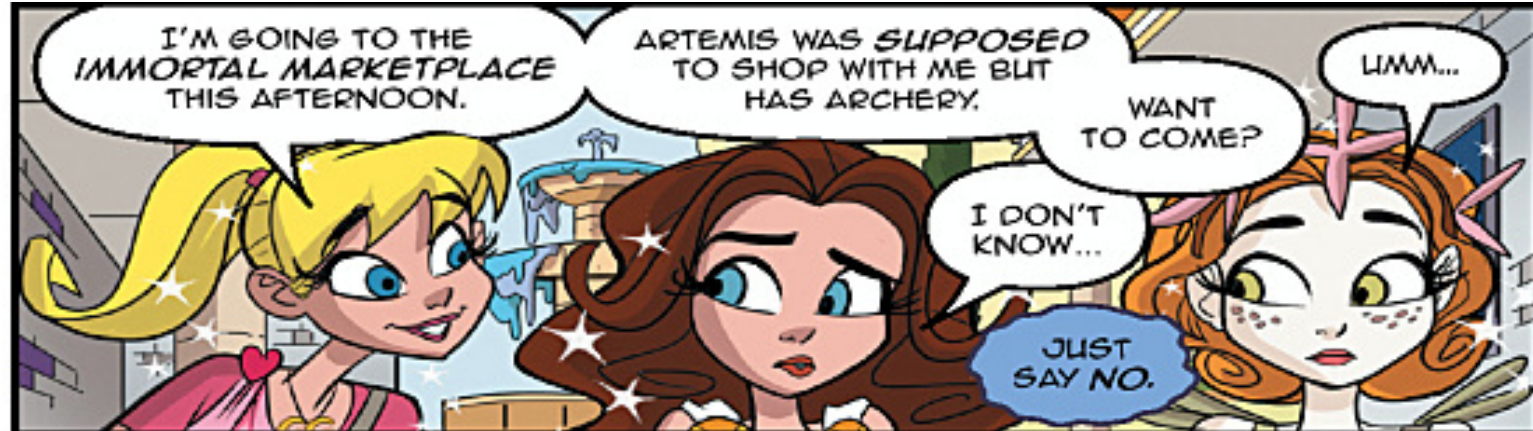
BAHHH!

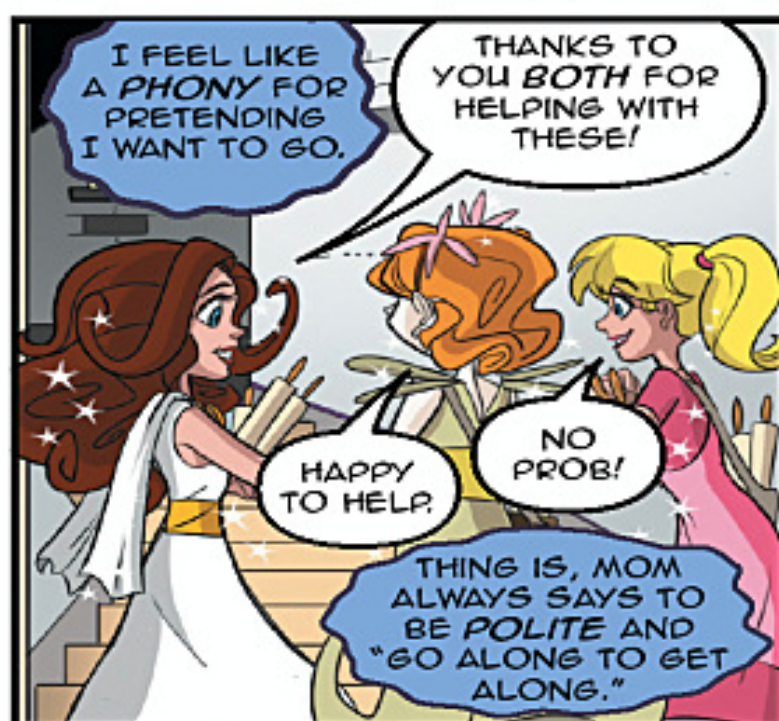
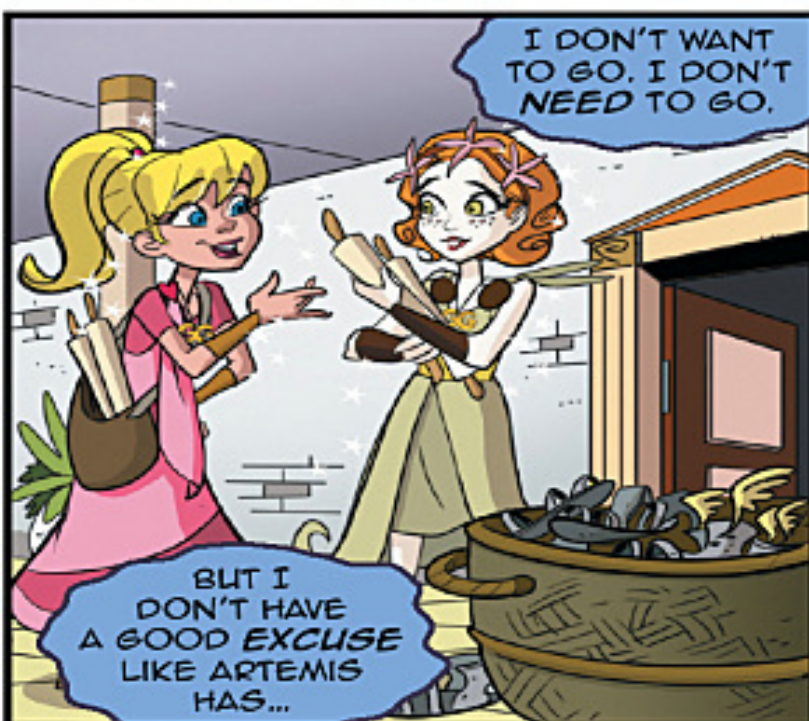
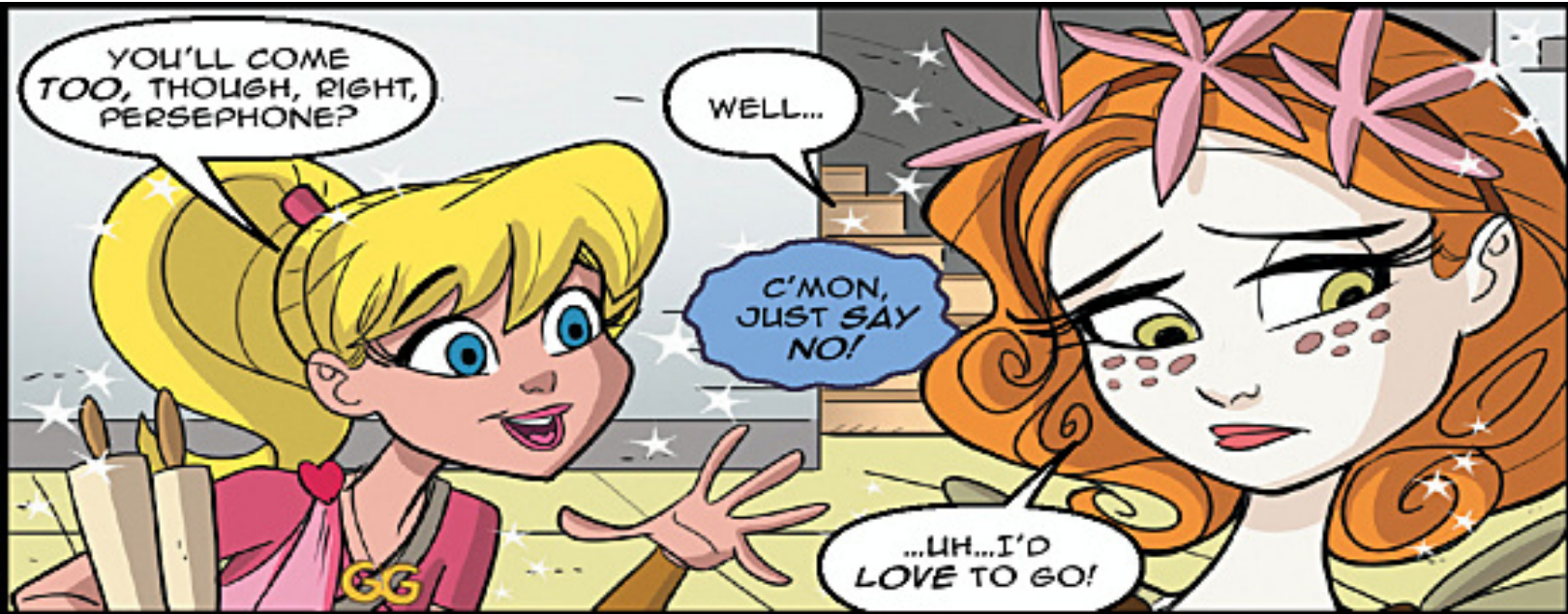
A THOUSAND
PARDONS, GODDESS
APHRODITE!

I LOVE
YOU!

LOVE
YOU MORE!

MWOH!





MOMENTS
LATER...

OOOOH!
LOVELY—AS
ALWAYS!

CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

I SWEAR—
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU
CHANGE OUTFITS FIVE
OR SIX TIMES A
DAY!

OF
COURSE!

DOESN'T
EVERYONE?

HEH. NOT
EVERYONE.

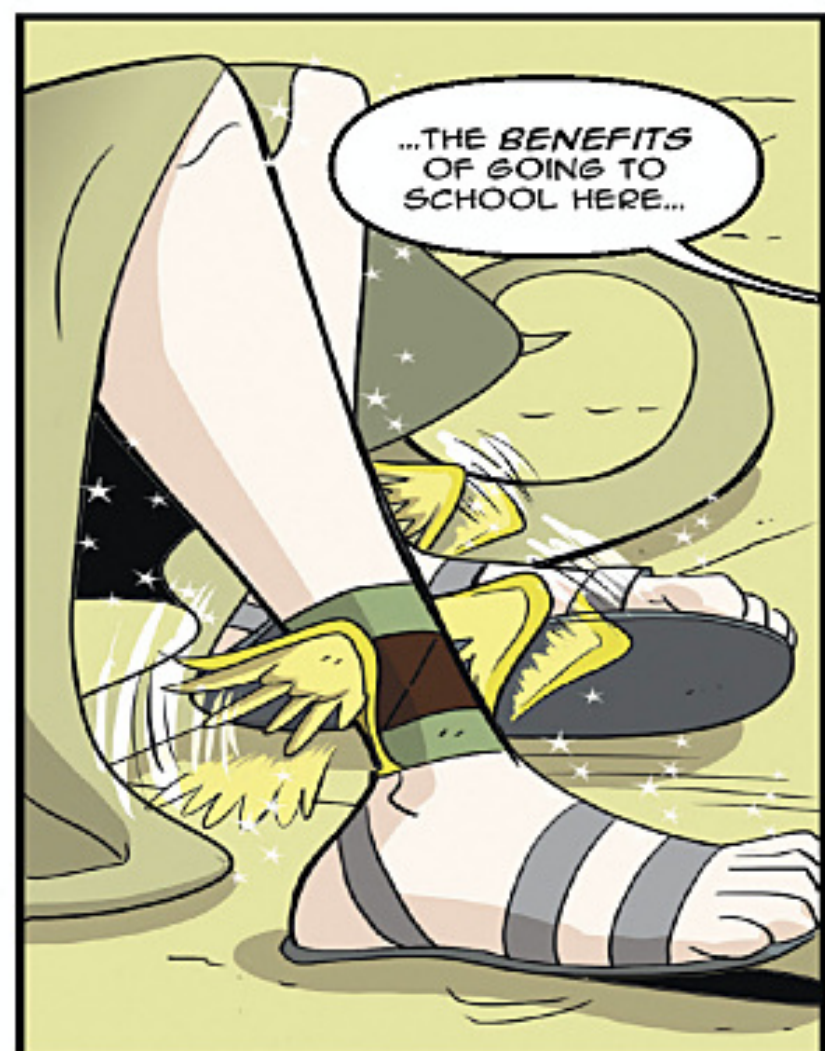
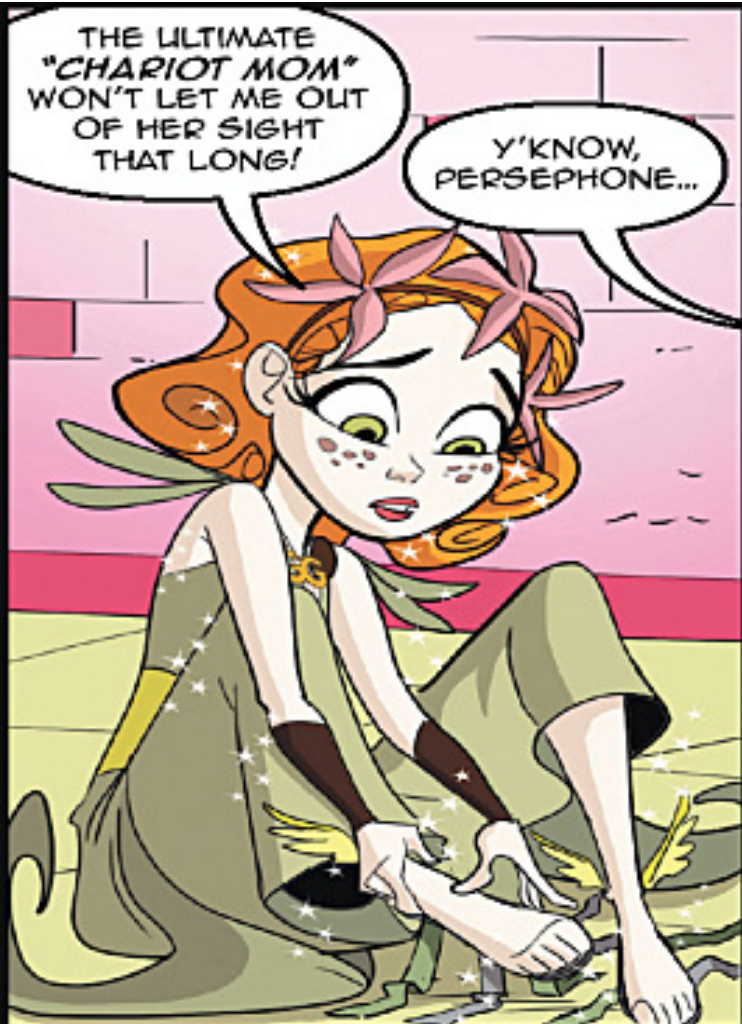
I ONLY HAVE
WHAT I WEAR IN THE
MORNING, PLUS MY
CHEERING UNIFORM.

I DON'T EVEN GET TO
LIVE HERE, THOUGH
I'D LOVE TO.

MOM INSISTS
I LIVE AT HOME,
INSTEAD!

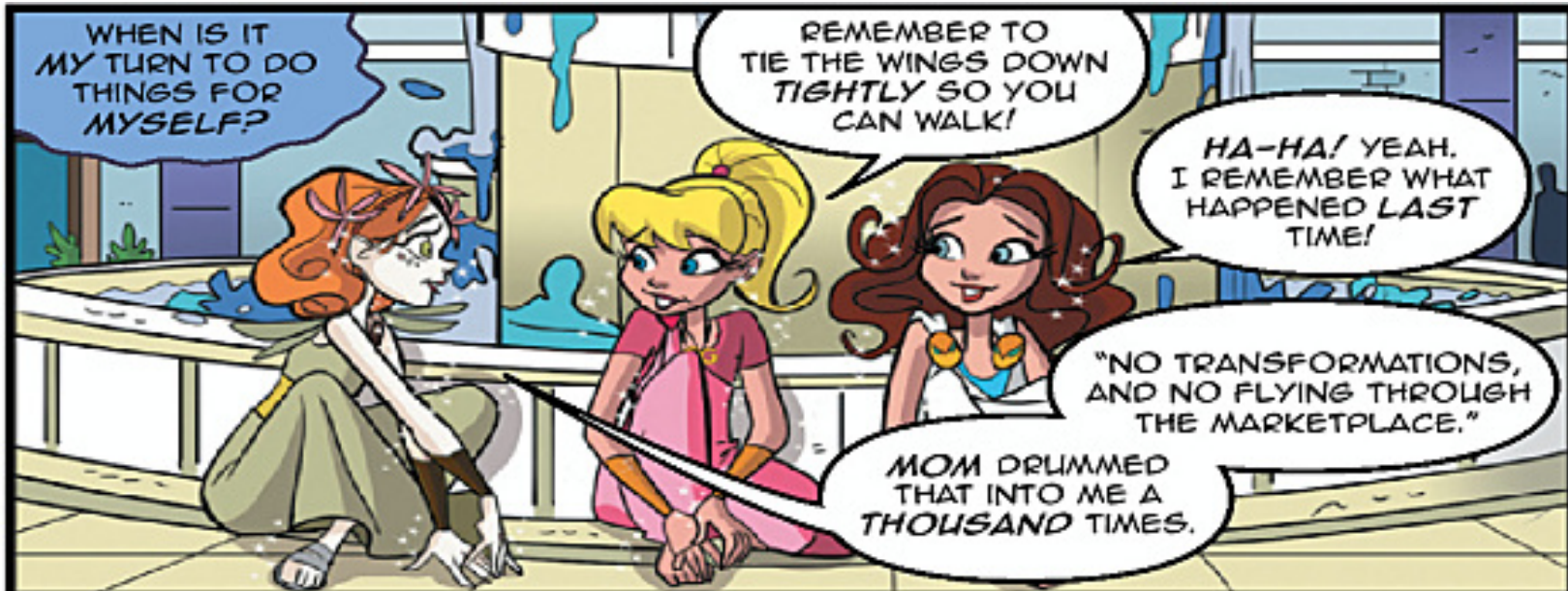
CAN'T YOU TALK
HER INTO LETTING YOU
BE HERE WITH YOUR
FRIENDS?

ARE YOU KIDDING,
APHRODITE?



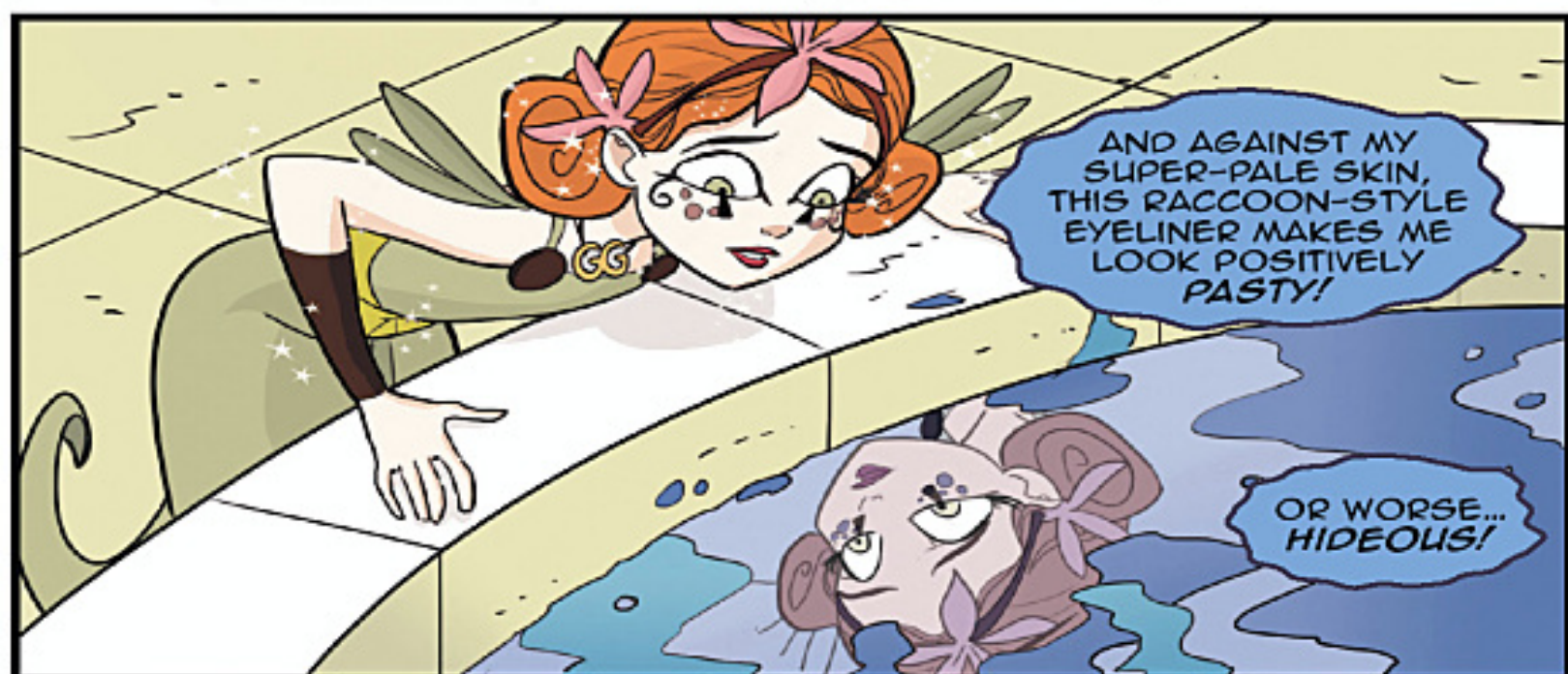
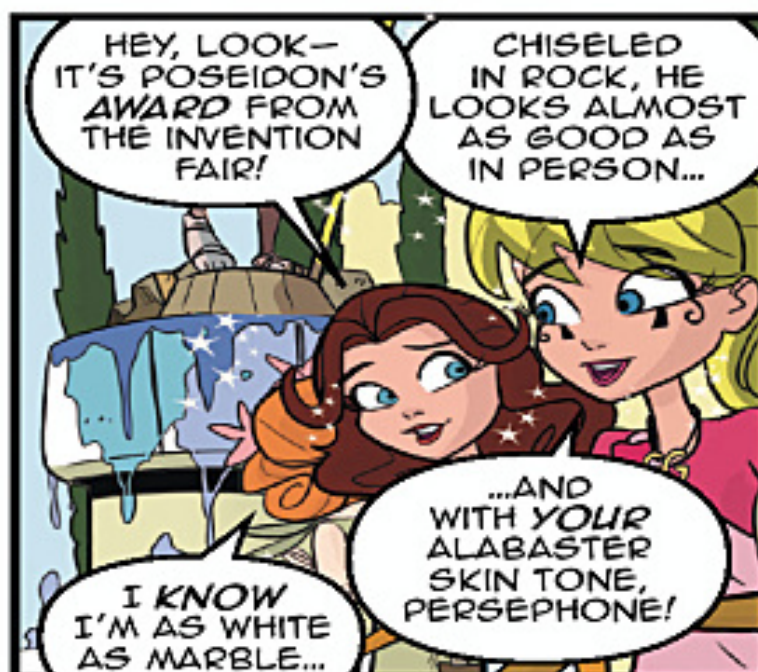
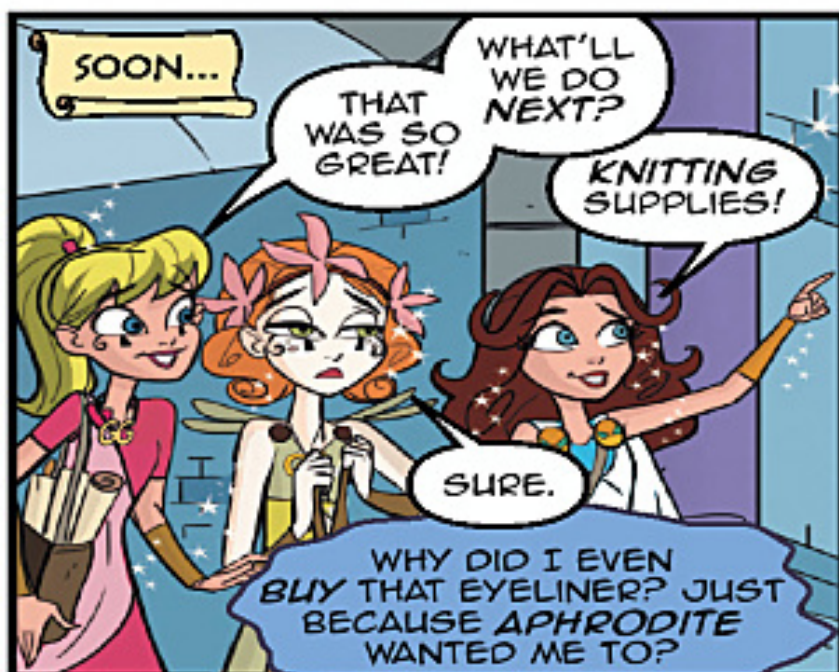


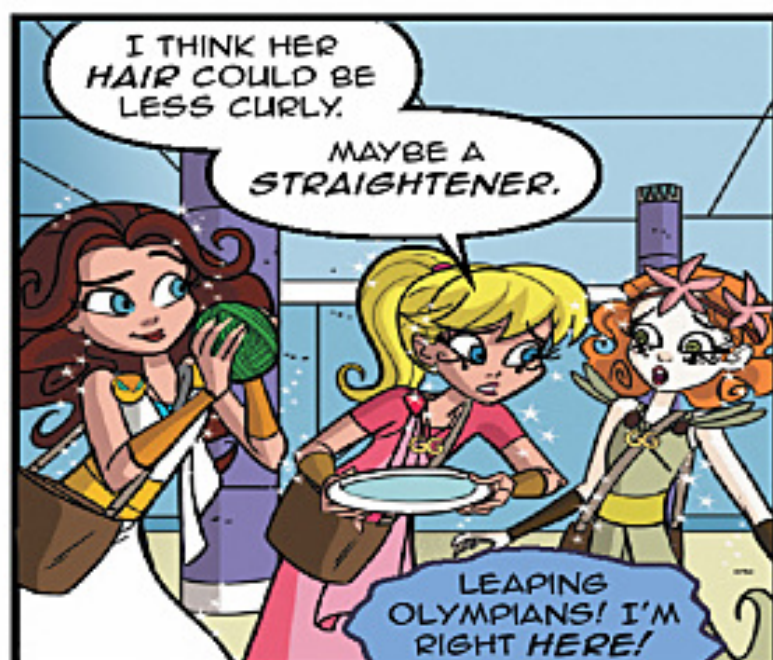












YOU SHOULD
TAKE UP KNITTING,
PERSEPHONE.

THERE
IT IS.

WHAT ARE YOU
THINKING SHE SHOULD
MAKE—A CAP?

I DON'T
WEAR CAPS.

REMEMBER, I HAVE A
"GREEN THUMB" FOR
GARDENING.

BUT I'M
ALL THUMBS
AT SEWING AND
KNITTING.

DON'T WORRY.
I INVENTED A GREAT
PATTERN YOU
CAN USE.

I DON'T
EVEN WANT
A CAP.

THEY DIDN'T
EVEN LISTEN TO
WHAT I WAS
SAYING.

I CAN'T
WAIT TO USE
THIS.

THAT'S WHY
THEY DON'T HEAR
HOW PHONY
I AM.

EVEN THE SOUND OF MY NAME SEEMS TO SHOW IT—PERSEPHONY.

I LACK THE GUTS TO SAY HOW I REALLY FEEL EVEN ABOUT THE SMALLEST THINGS.

YOUR MOM'S FLOWER SHOP!

WE DON'T NEED TO STOP.

OF COURSE I WANT TO STOP, BUT I KNOW THEY HAVE NO INTEREST IN GARDENING.

I'LL SEE MOM LATER AT HOME.

I WONDER IF ALL THE GODBOYS BOUGHT FLOWERS FROM YOUR MOM FOR ALL US GODDESSES FOR THE DANCE!

I WON'T BE GOING TO THE DANCE. I DOUBT MOM WOULD LET ME.

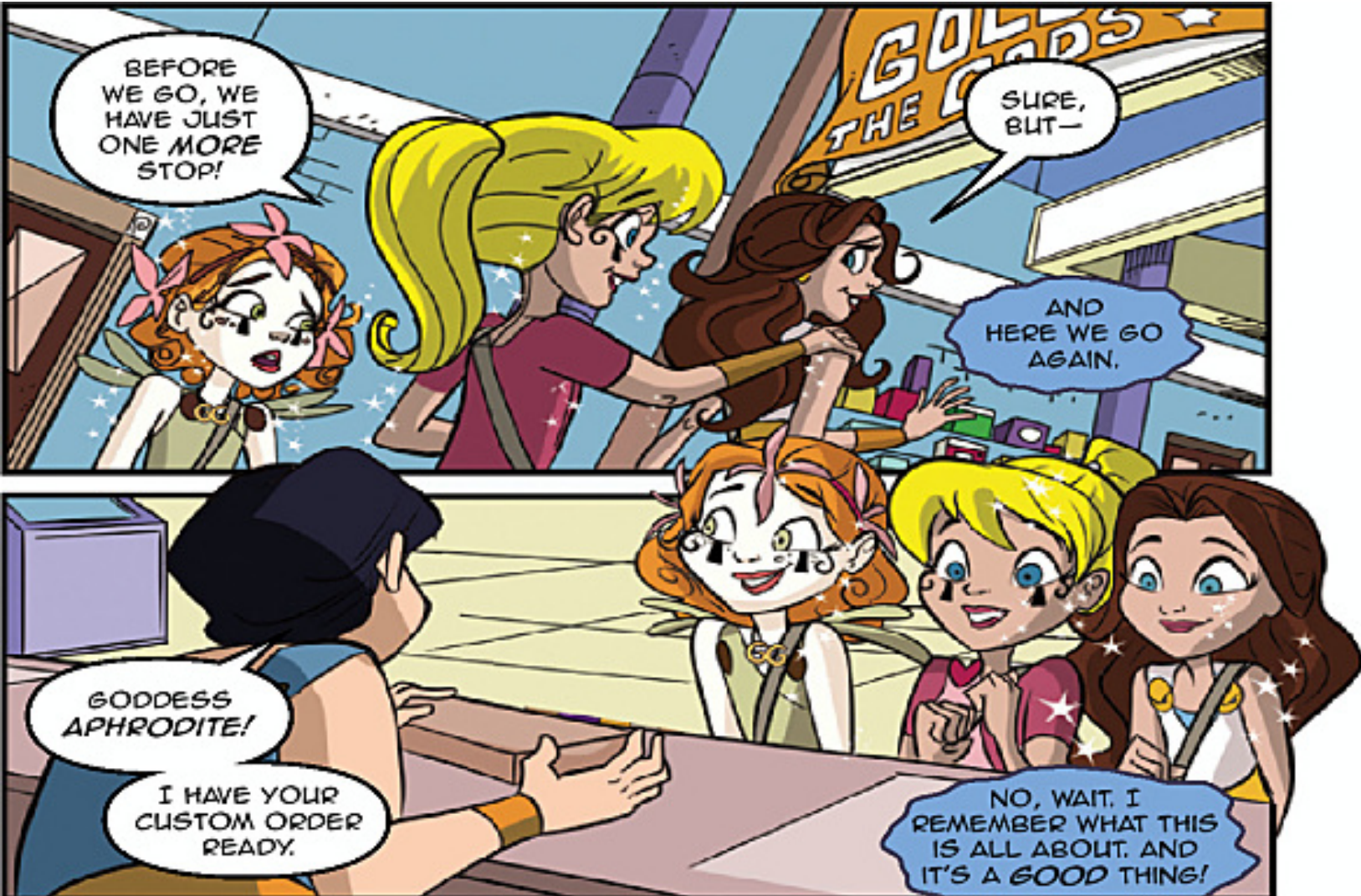
SHE THINKS I'M TOO YOUNG FOR DANCES—OR ANY ACTIVITY INVOLVING GODBOYS!

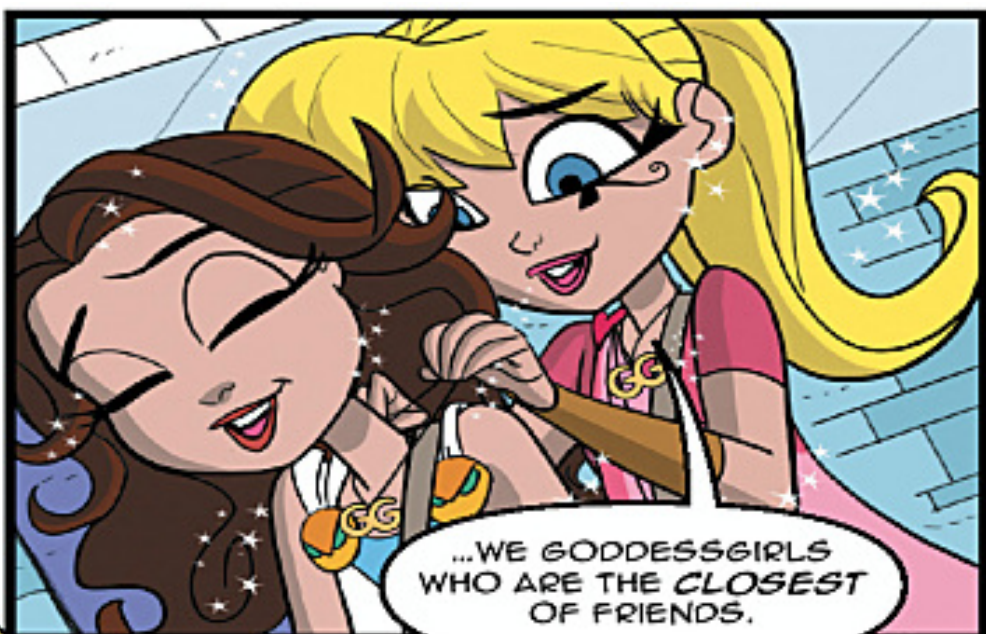
TALK TO HER! AND JUST BE GRATEFUL YOU HAVE A MOM.

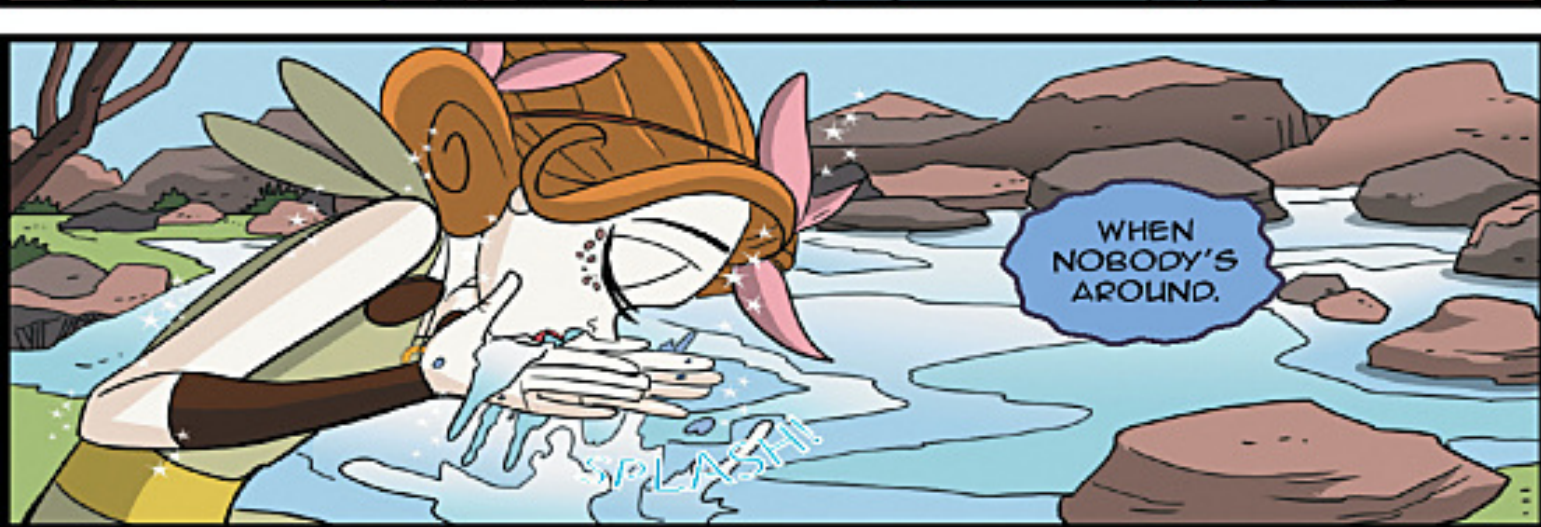
SPRUNG FROM SEA FOAM, I'VE NO PARENTS AT ALL!

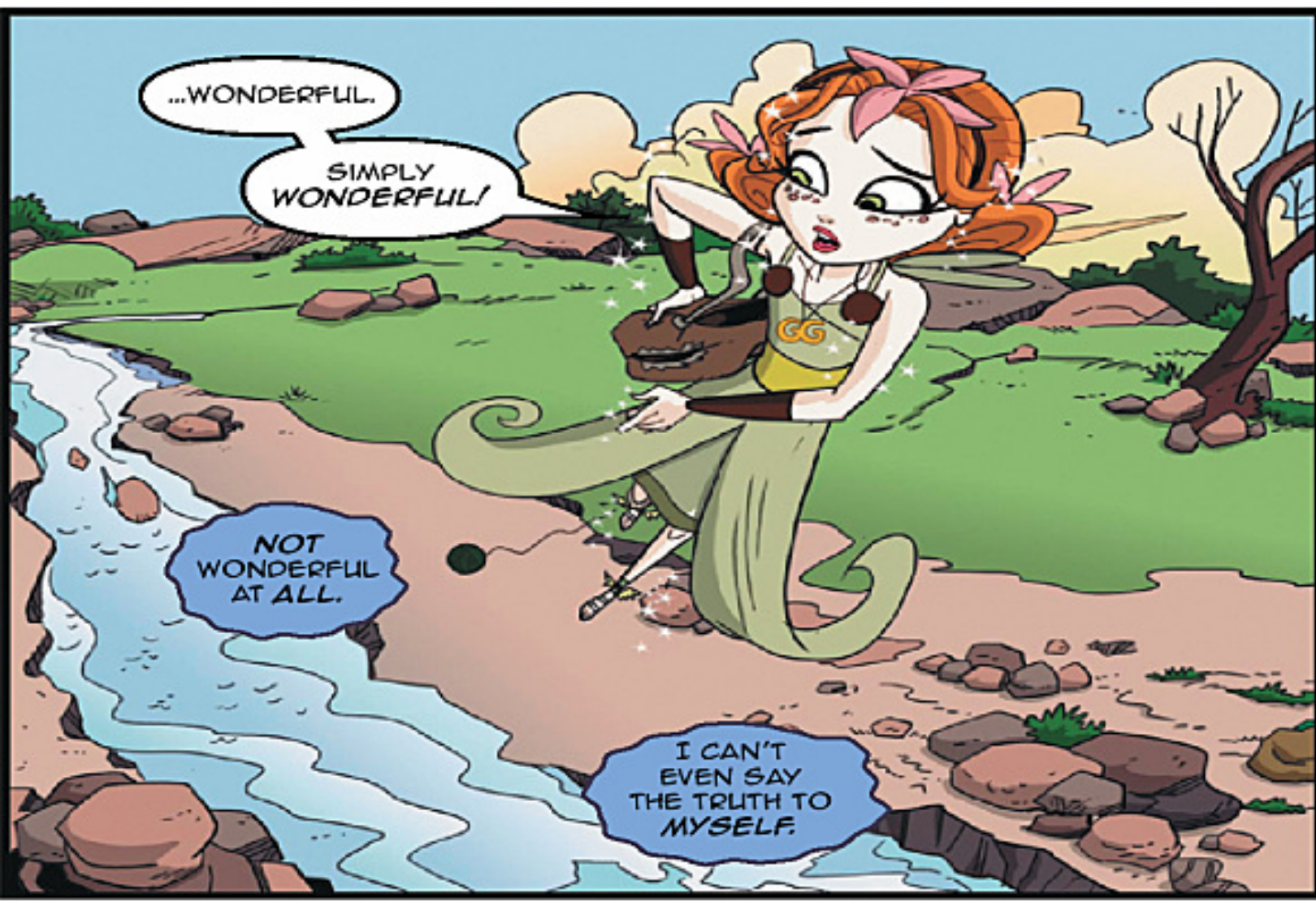
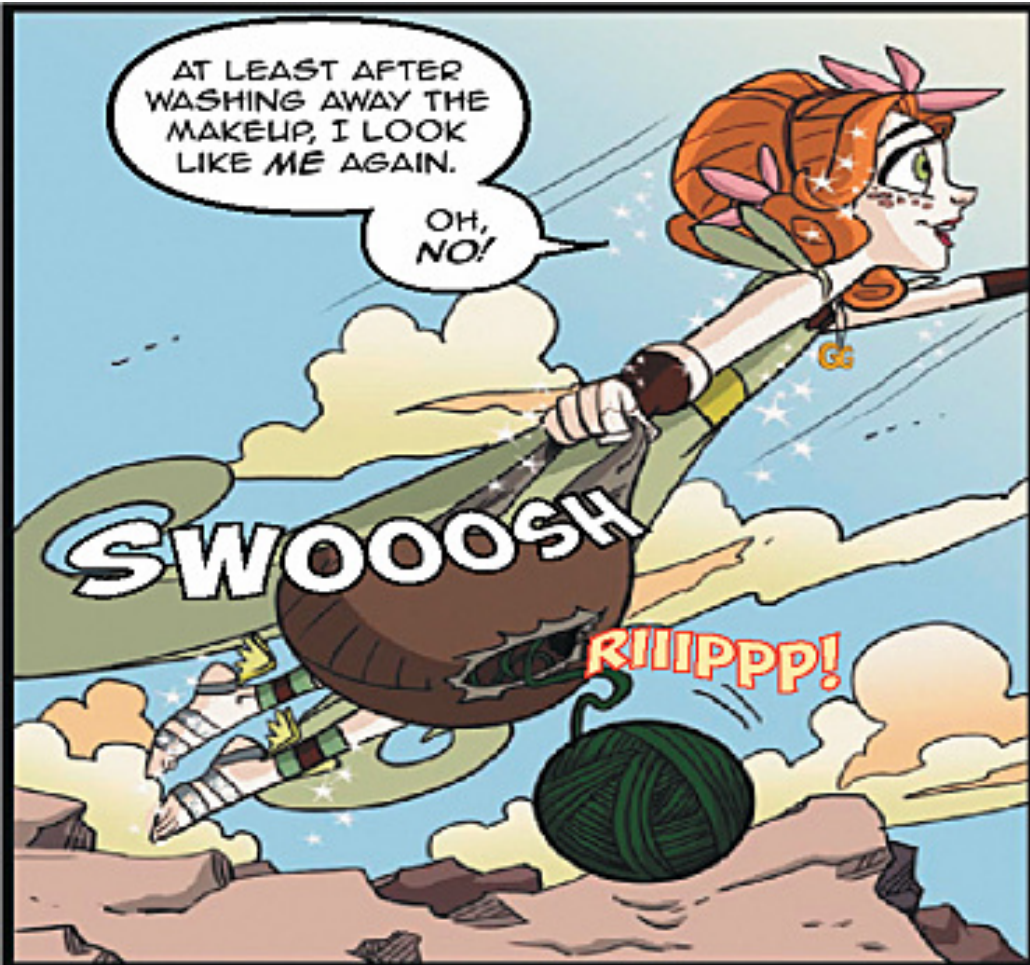
MY MOM'S A FLY!

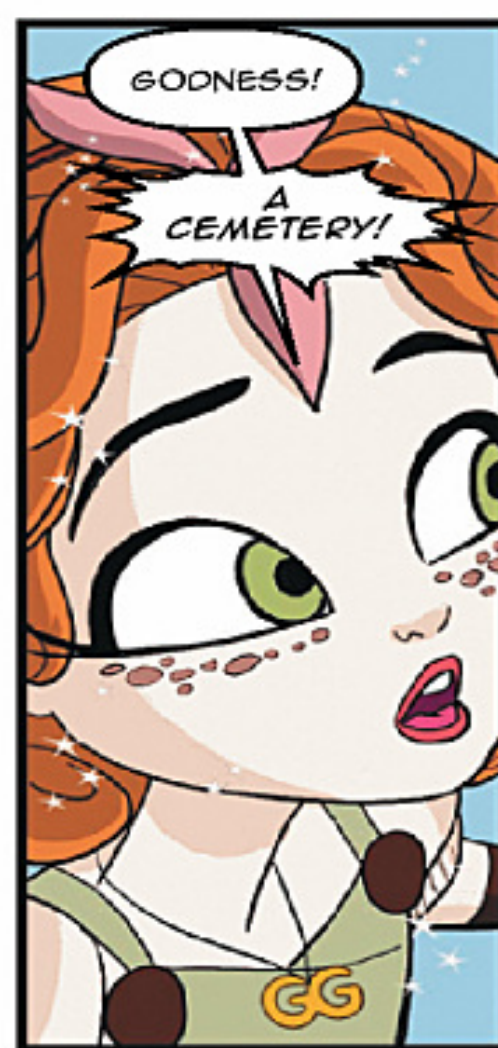
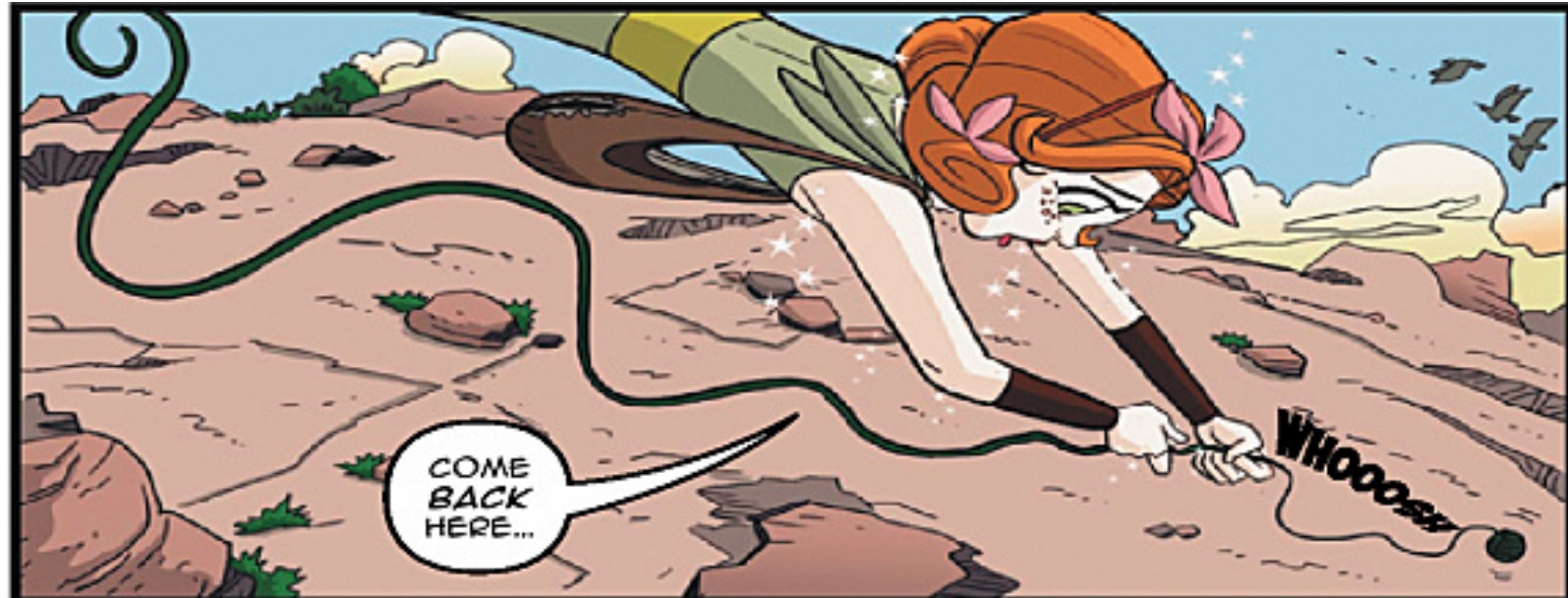
THEY JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND.











CHAPTER 3:
HADES

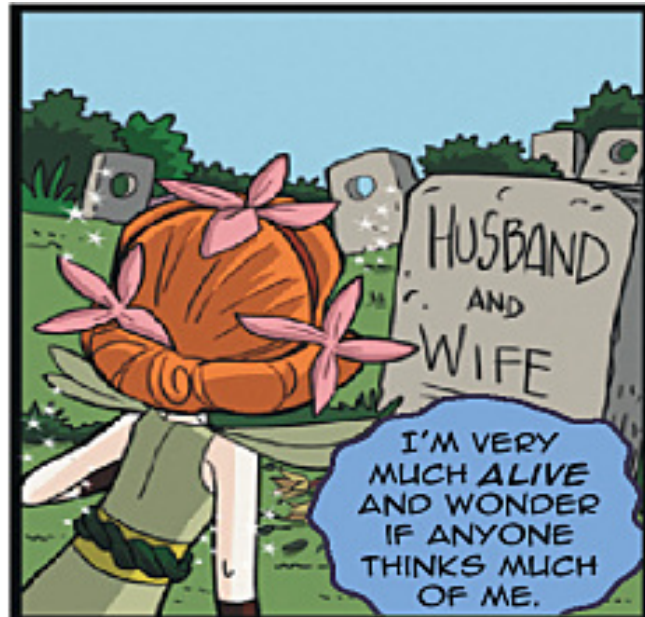
HOW
ODD!

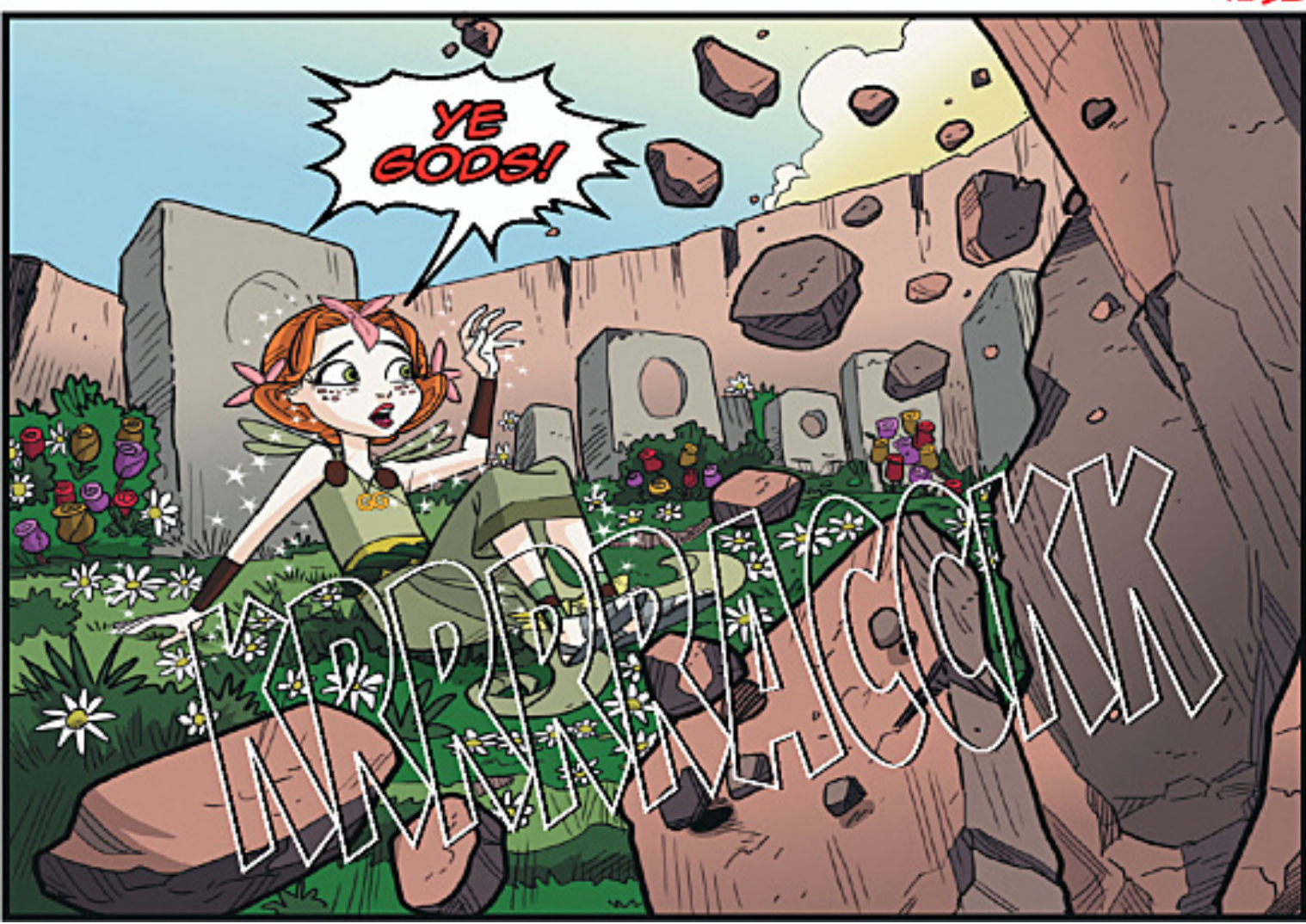
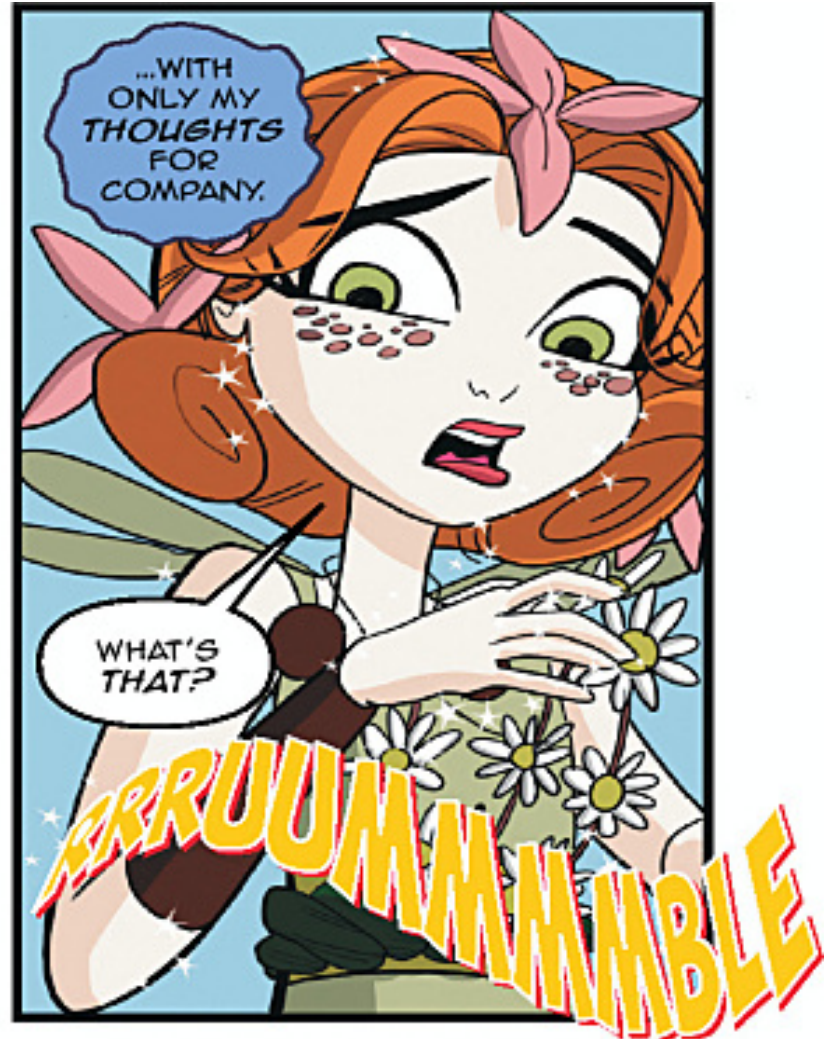
WHY IS A WALL
NECESSARY AROUND
A CEMETERY?

DO MORTALS FIND
THIS PLACE SO INVITING
THAT TOO MANY ARE
DYING TO GET IN?











**WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING IN MY
CEMETERY?**

HUH—?

YOUR
CEMETERY?









DO YOU HAVE ANY CLASSES WITH MR. CYCLOPS?

OH, YES. I HAVE HIM FOR MY LAST CLASS OF THE DAY.

DOES HE WALK AROUND BAREFOOT IN YOUR CLASS TOO?

YES! AND HE LEAVES HIS SANDALS LYING AROUND FOR EVERYONE TO TRIP OVER.

THOSE THINGS ARE AS BIG AS BOATS!

IT'S BECOME A GAME TO HIDE THEM!

HAVE YOU EVER DONE THAT?

NO, BUT MY FRIENDS ATHENA AND APHRODITE ONCE DECORATED THEM WITH GLITTERY STARS AND HUNG THEM FROM THE CEILING!

I'VE SEEN YOU WITH THEM, YOUR FRIENDS.

...REALLY?

SO WHO DO YOU HANG OUT WITH?

I'M... KIND OF A LONER.

TELL ME MORE ABOUT YOUR FRIENDS.

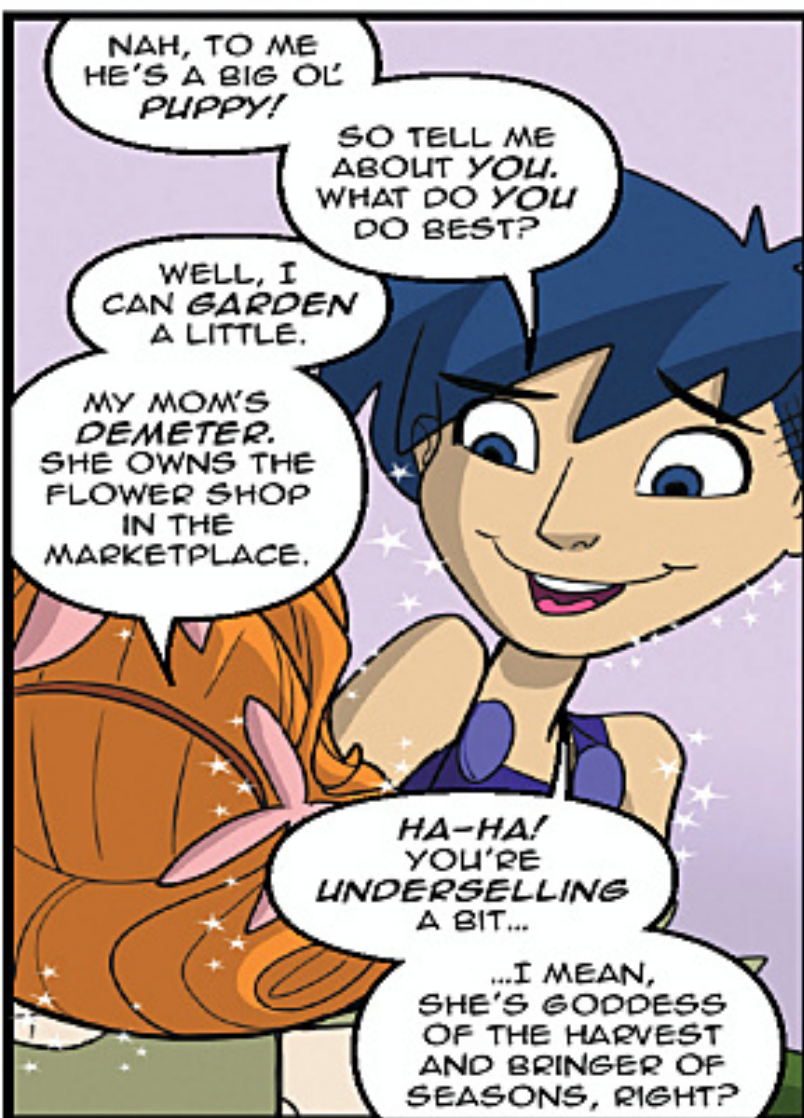
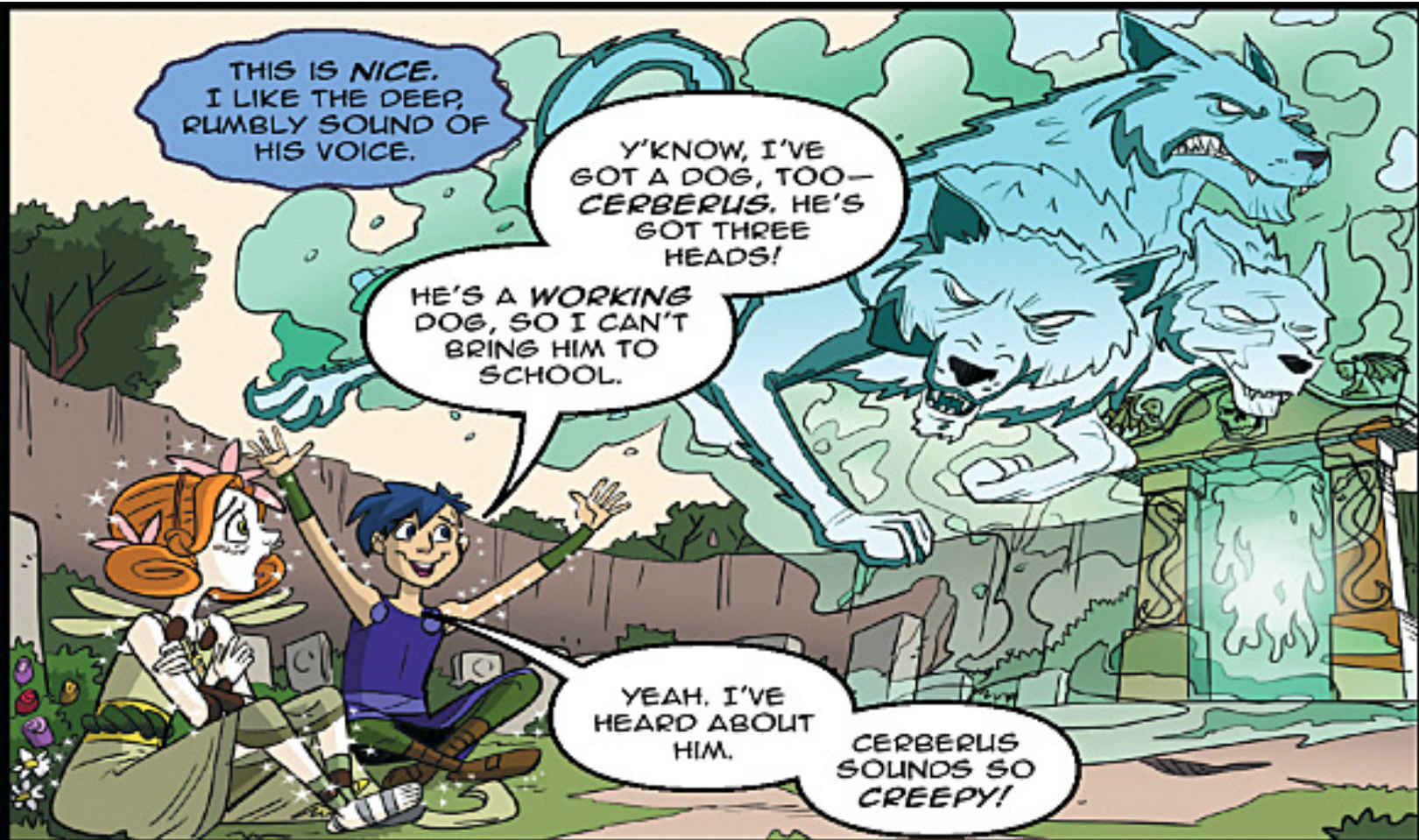
ATHENA IS SO SMART—SHE INVENTED THE OLIVE!

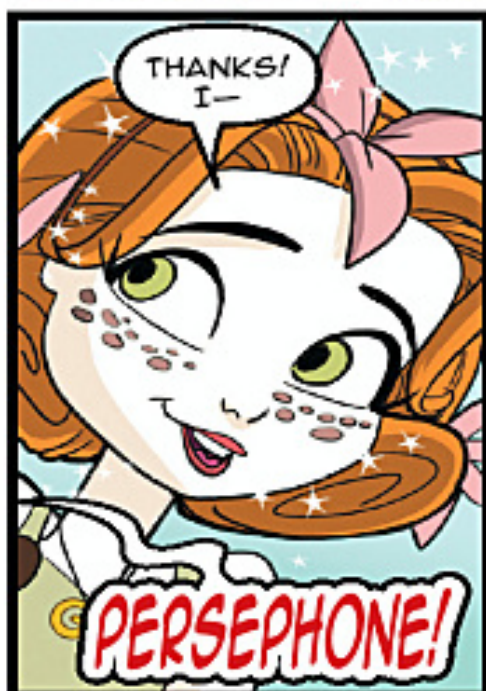
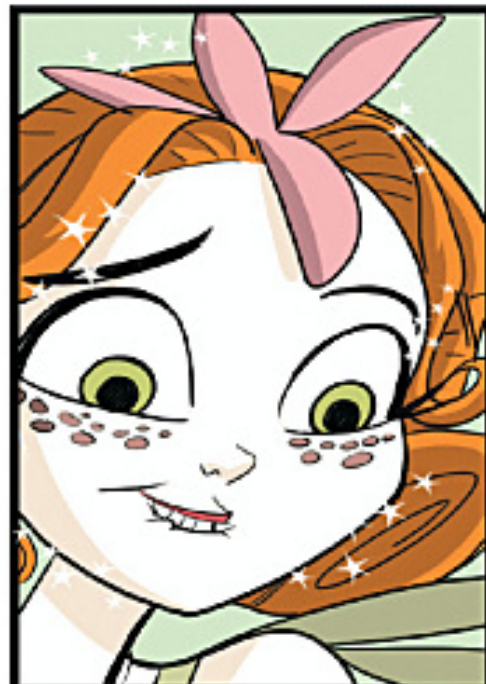
NOBODY KNOWS FASHION BETTER THAN APHRODITE.

ARTEMIS IS OUR BEST ARCHER, AND SHE HAS THREE DOGS WHO USED MR. CYCLOPS'S SANDALS FOR CHEW TOYS!

HA-HA-HA! I SAW THAT!

WHAT A DROOLY MESS!





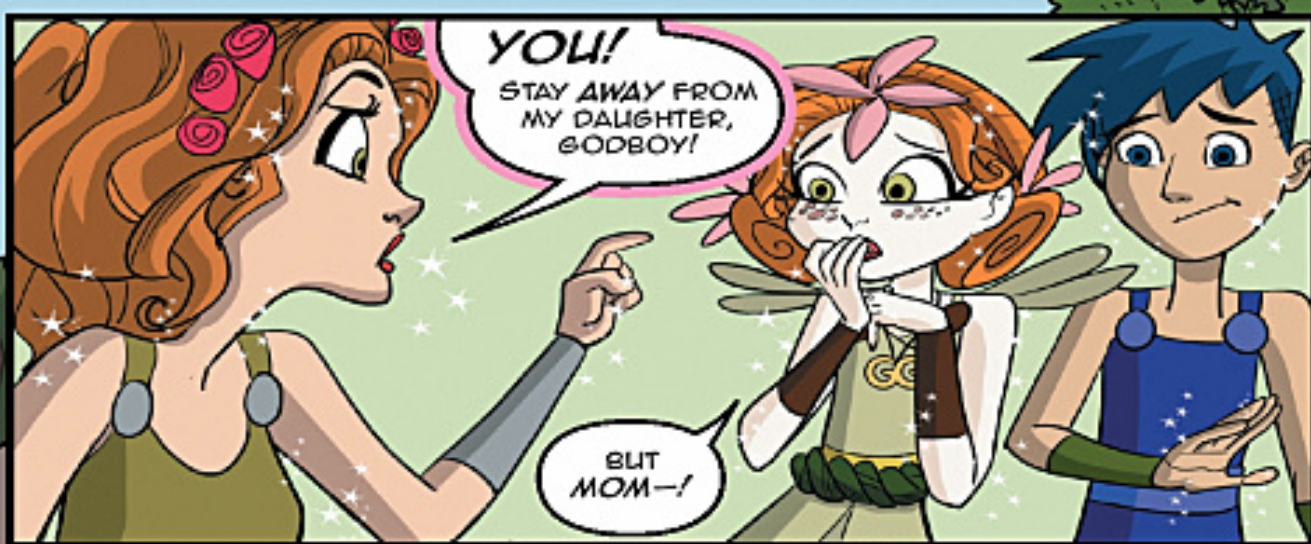
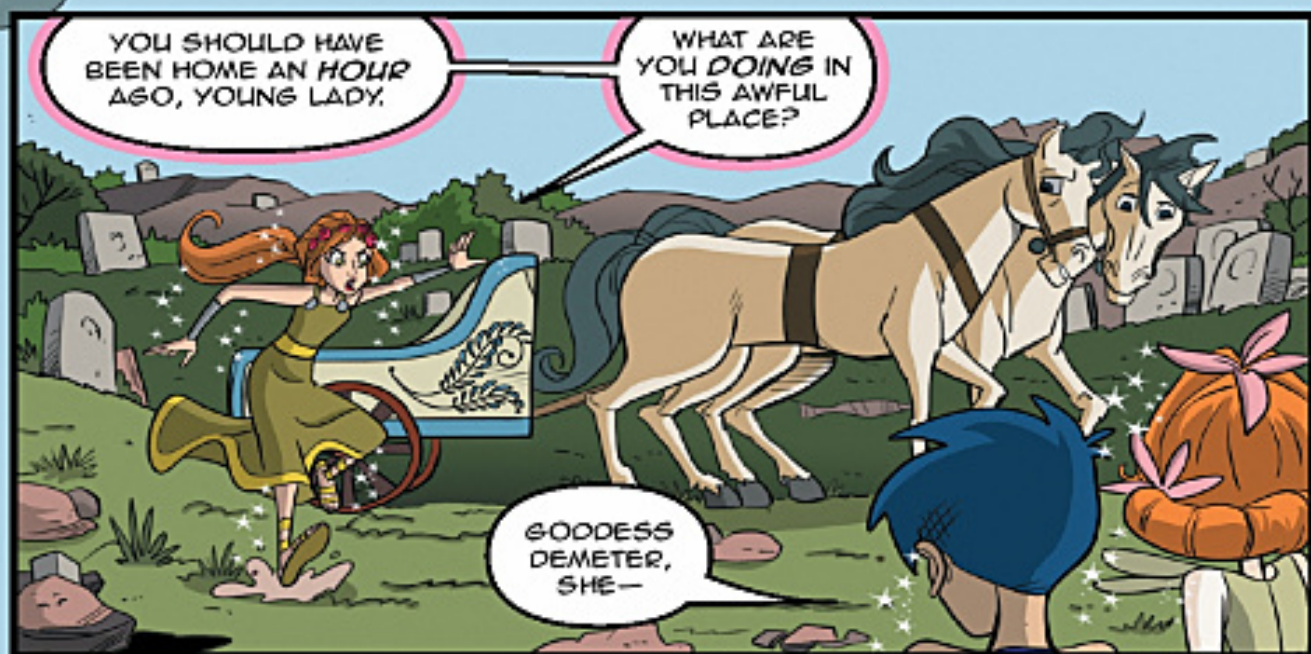


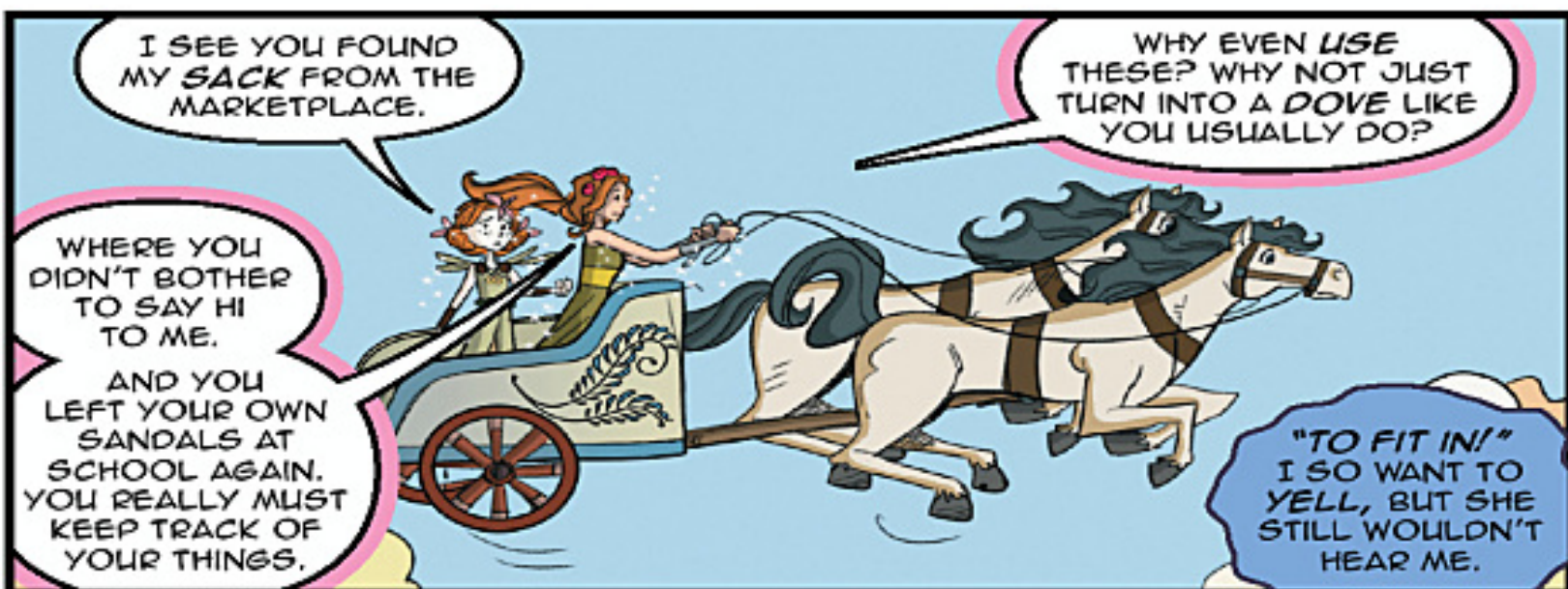
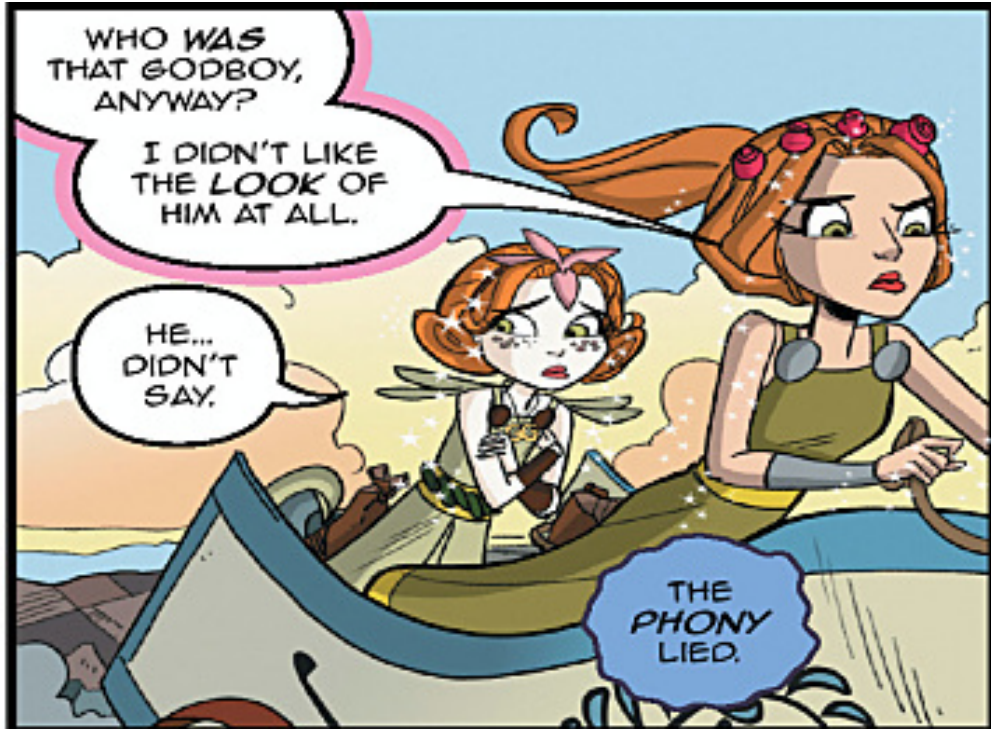
PERSEPHONE!

I'VE BEEN
LOOKING FOR YOU
EVERYWHERE!

OH NO—
MY MOM!

OH
BOY!





CHAPTER 4: THE MISSING SANDALS

I DIDN'T WANT
TO LIE TO MOM
LAST NIGHT ABOUT
KNOWING **HADES'S**
NAME.

YET GIVEN
THAT SCRAP OF
INFORMATION, MOM
WOULD'VE **PURSUED** IT
LIKE A BEE AFTER
POLLEN!

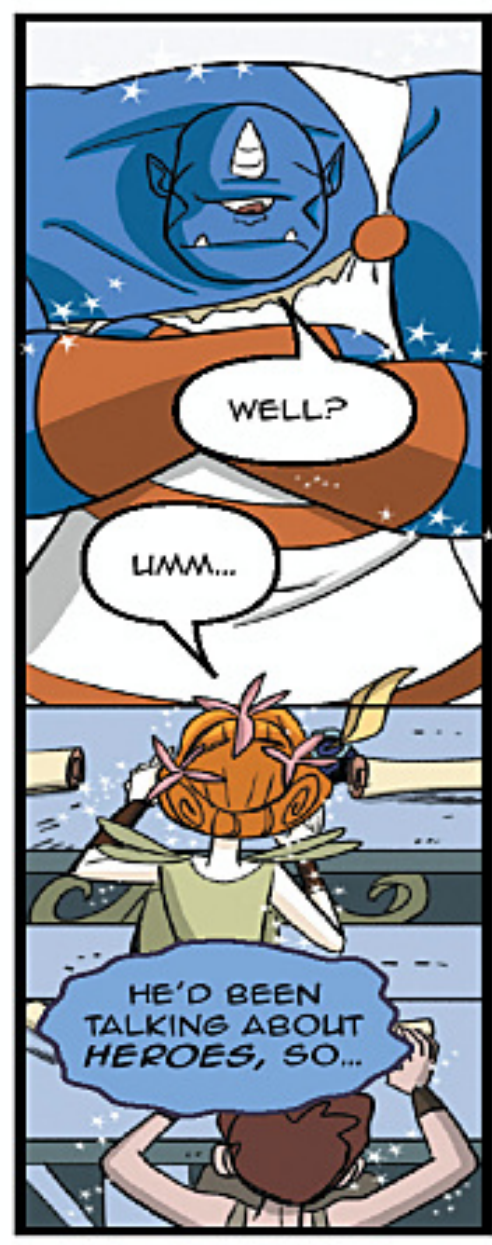
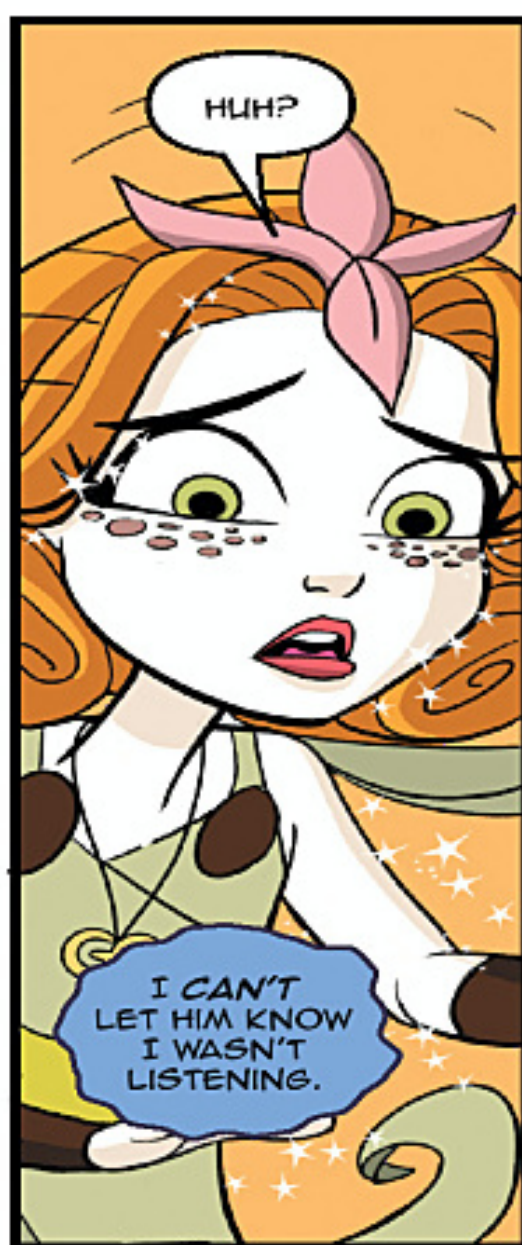
==SIGH!==

ATHENA IS
TOO **SMART**
FOR HER OWN
GOOD.

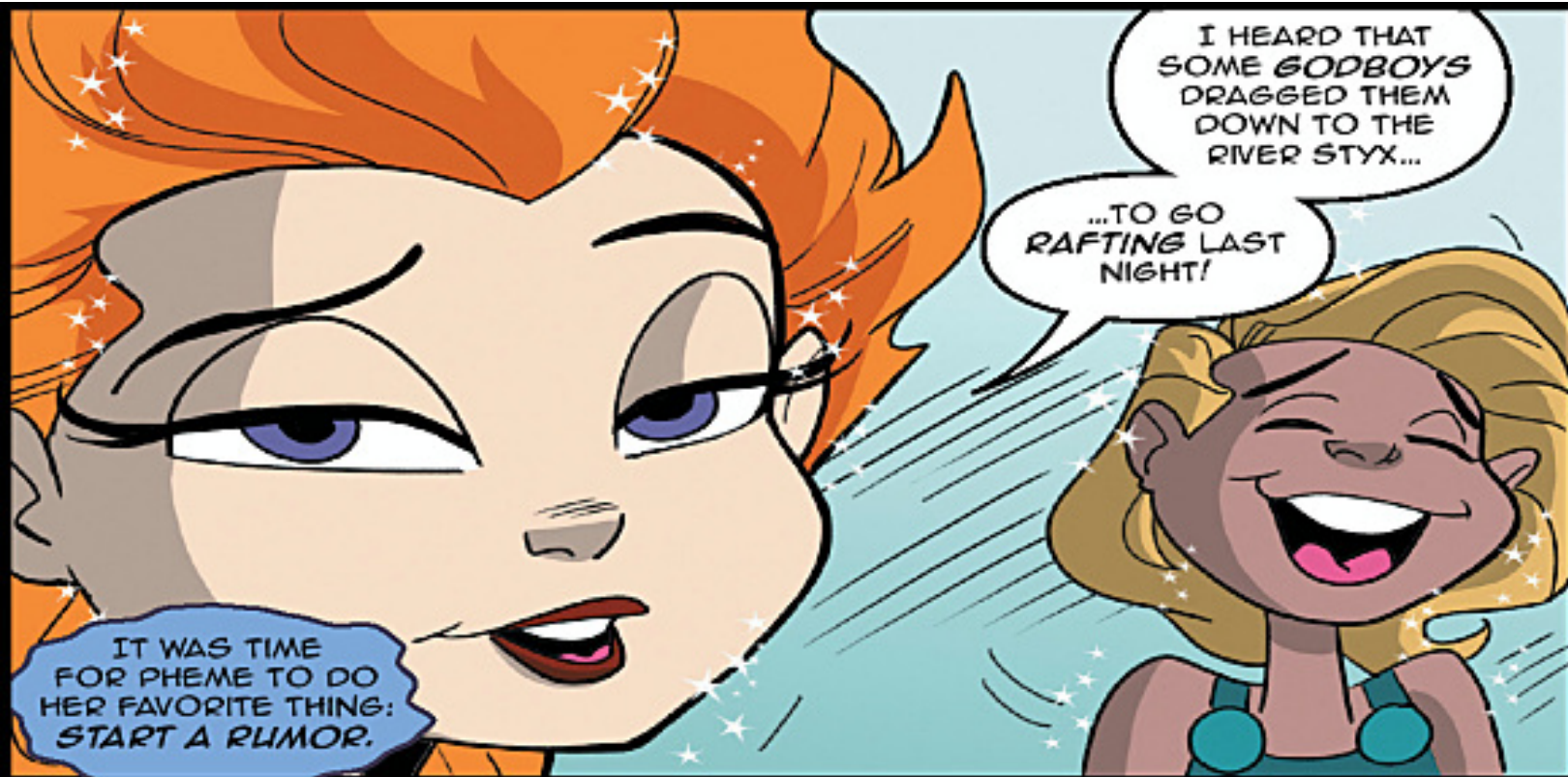
IN
HER VIEW
APHRODITE
IS TOO
OBSESSED
WITH HER
LOOKS.

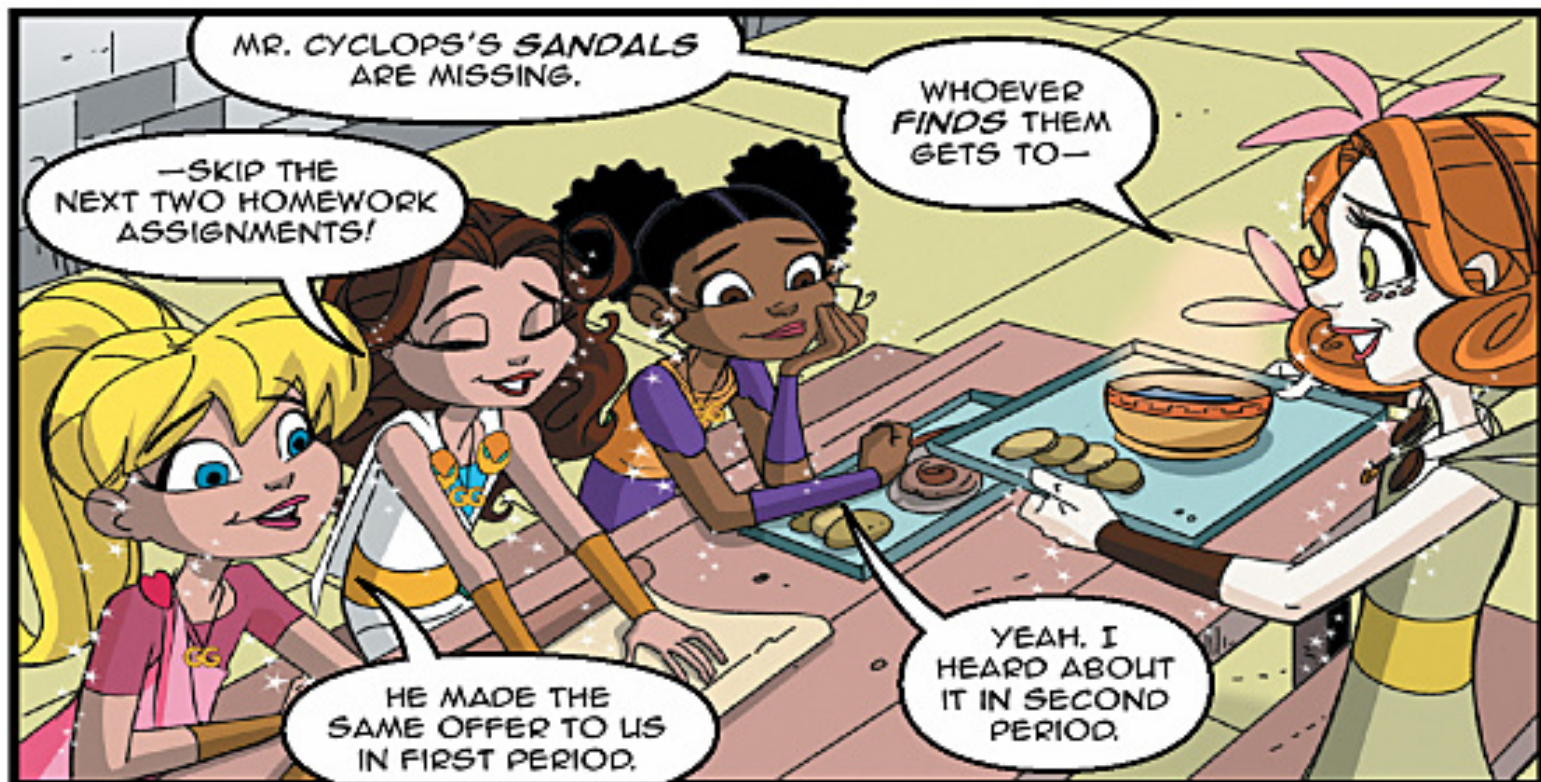
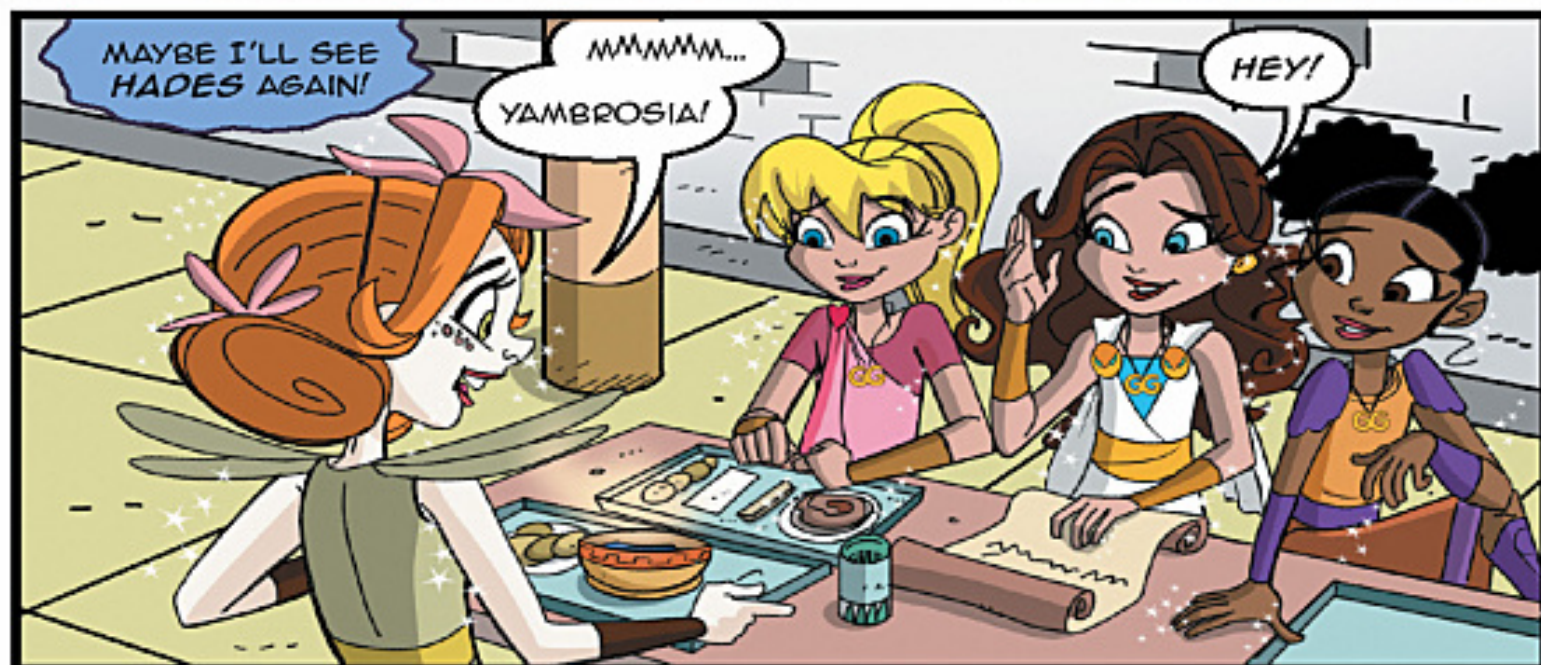
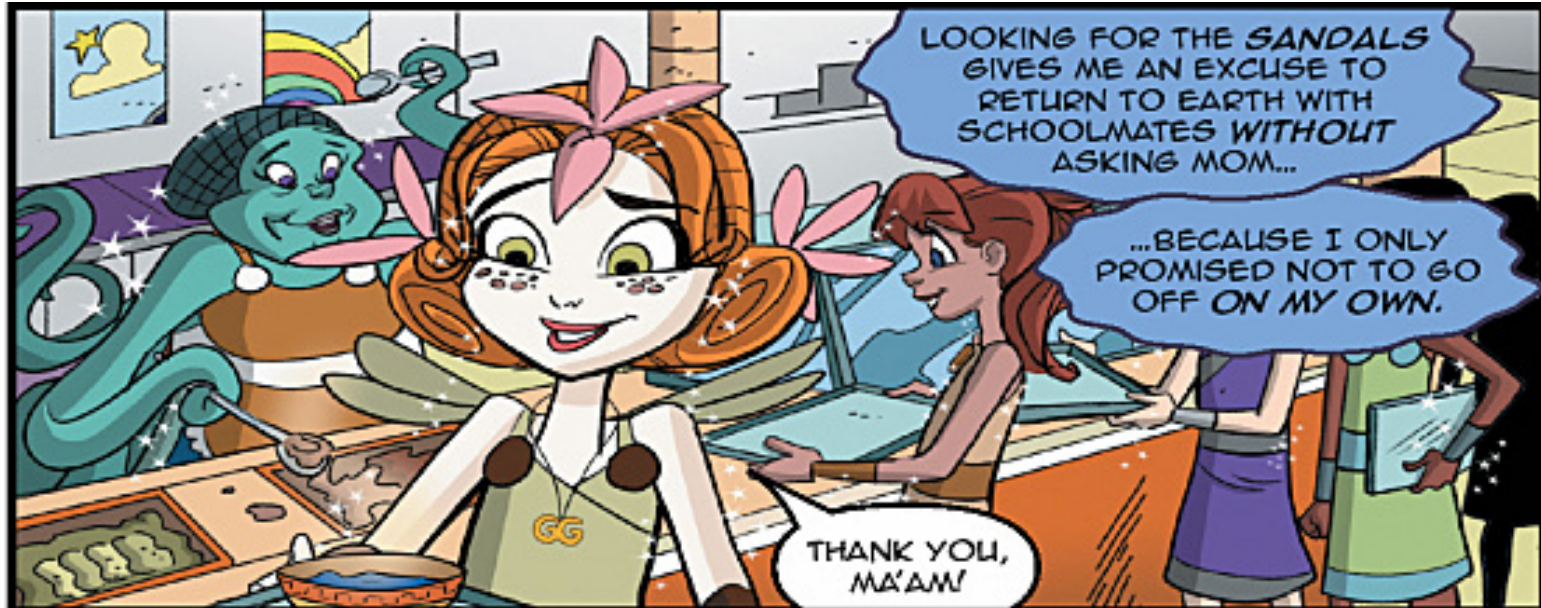
AND ARTEMIS
SPENDS TOO MUCH
TIME TRAIPSING ABOUT
IN THE **WOODS** WITH
HER DOGS.

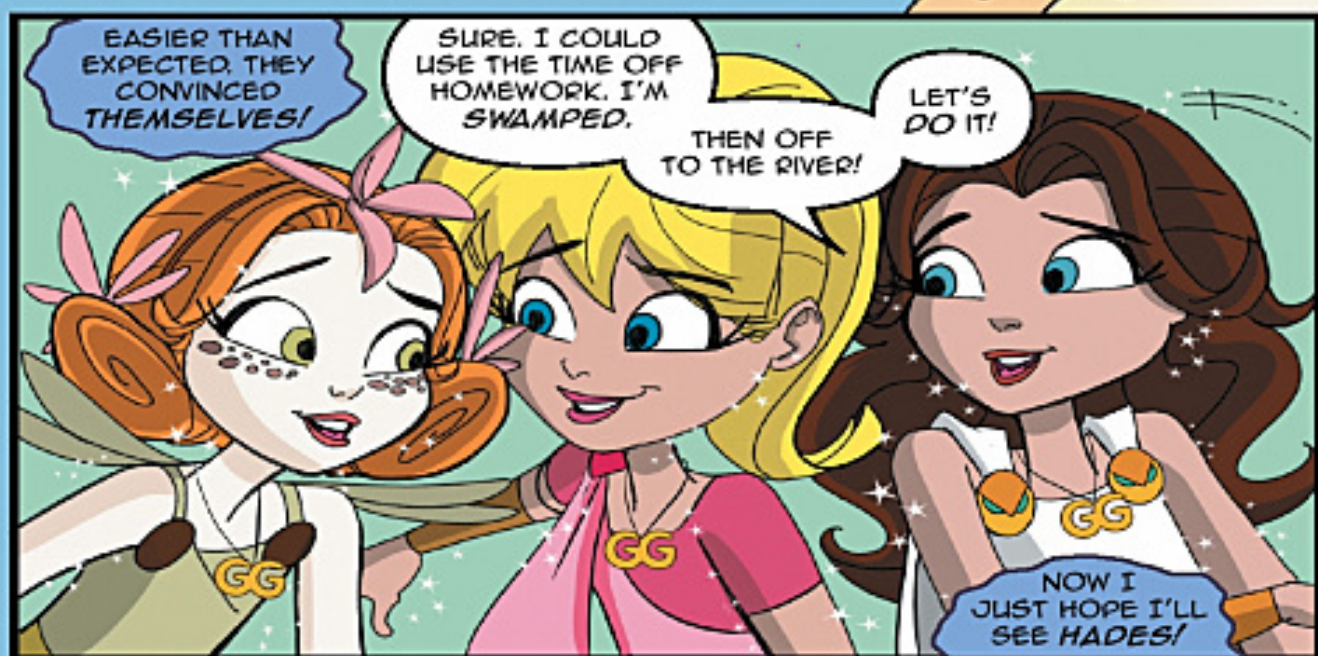
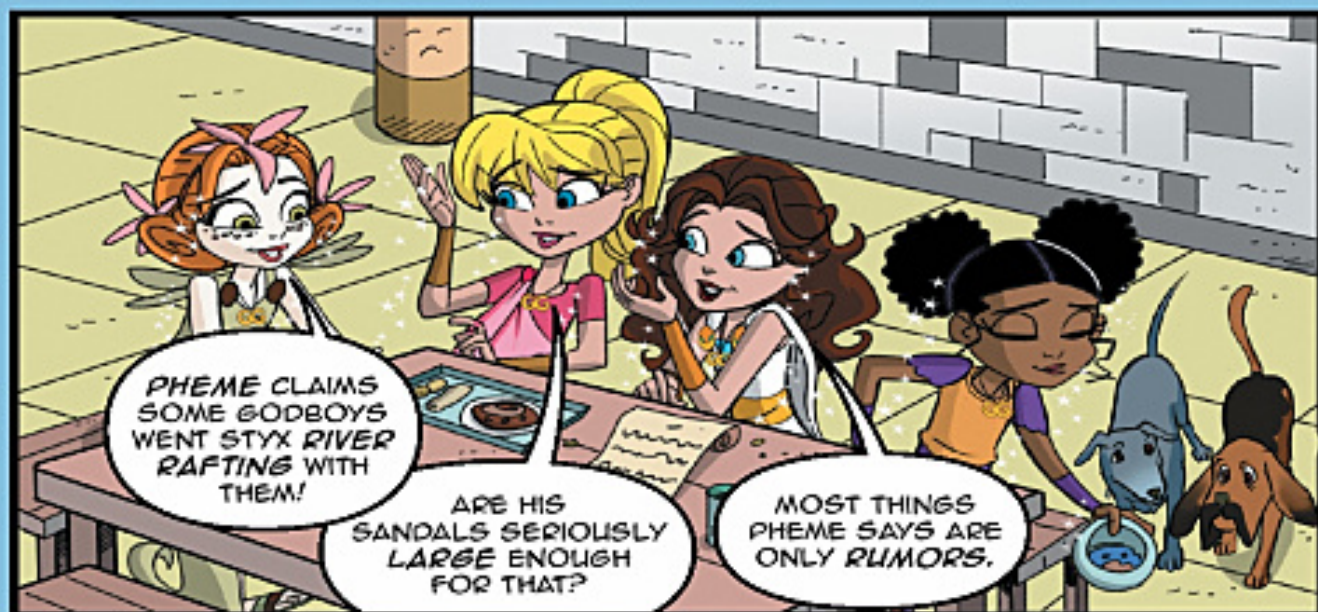
IT'S A
MIRACLE
MOM EVEN
ALLOWS
ME TO HAVE
FRIENDS!











CHAPTER 5: THE SEARCH

OF COURSE
APHRODITE HAD TO
CHANGE INTO A
"SEARCH PARTY"
OUTFIT.

NECESSARY?
NO. BUT SHE SURE
LOOKS GOOD
IN IT.

WE'RE
NOT ALONE,
GODDESSGIRLS!

I LOVE YOUR
CHITON, APHRODITE!
PATTERNED AFTER
THE SHIPS THAT I
INVENTED!

SHE
LOOKS GOOD IN
EVERYTHING.



WOW. PHEME'S RUMOR
SPREAD FASTER THAN FIRE
ON A WINDY DAY!

QUITE THE
TURNOUT.

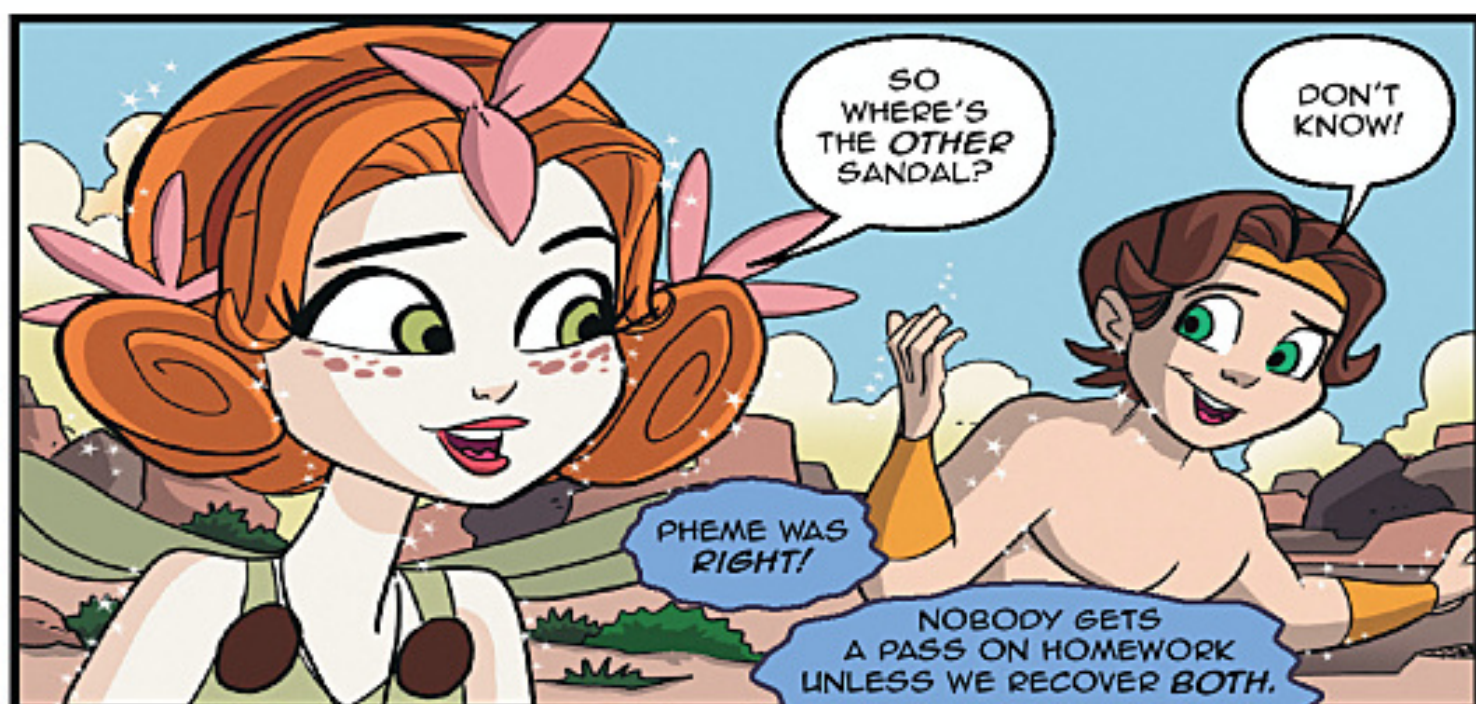
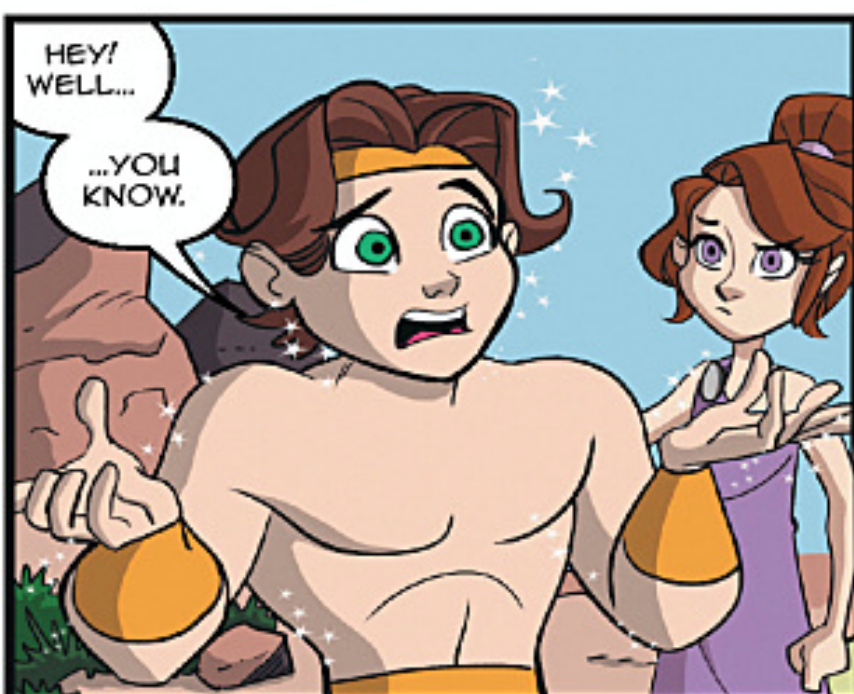
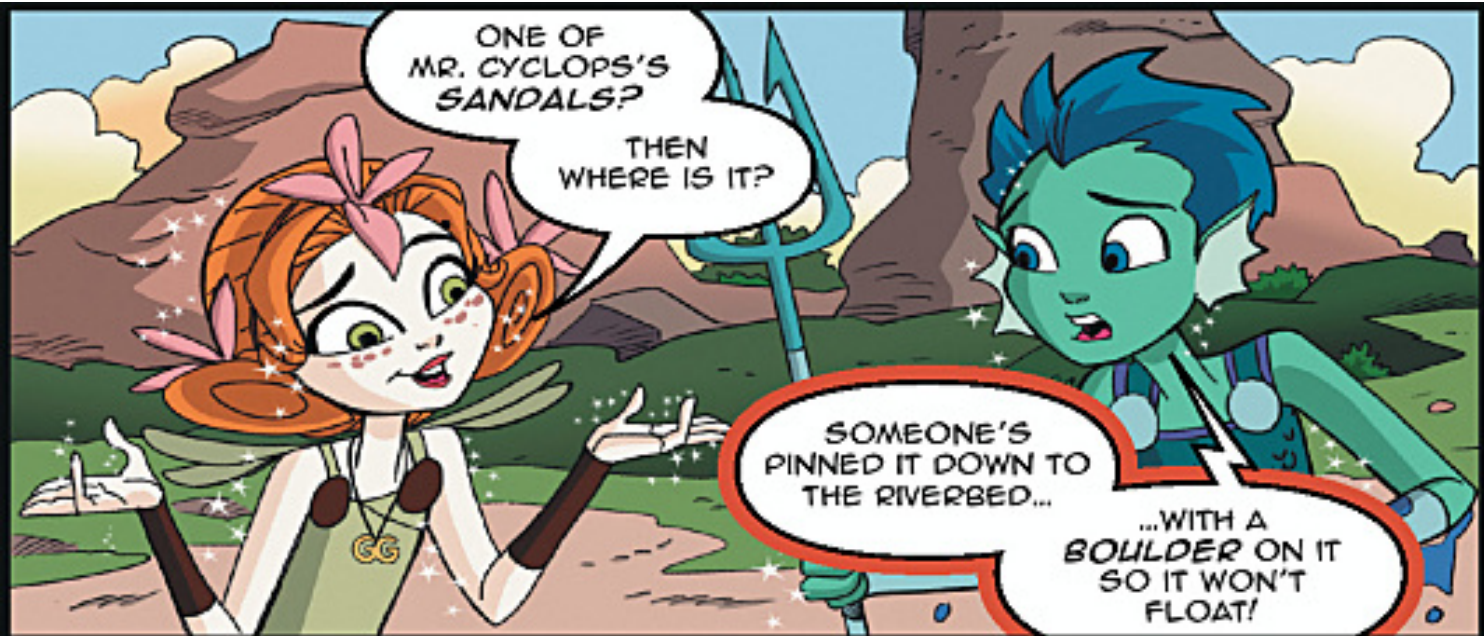
EVERYBODY WANTS A
GET-OUT-OF-HOMEWORK
PASS!

WHOA!

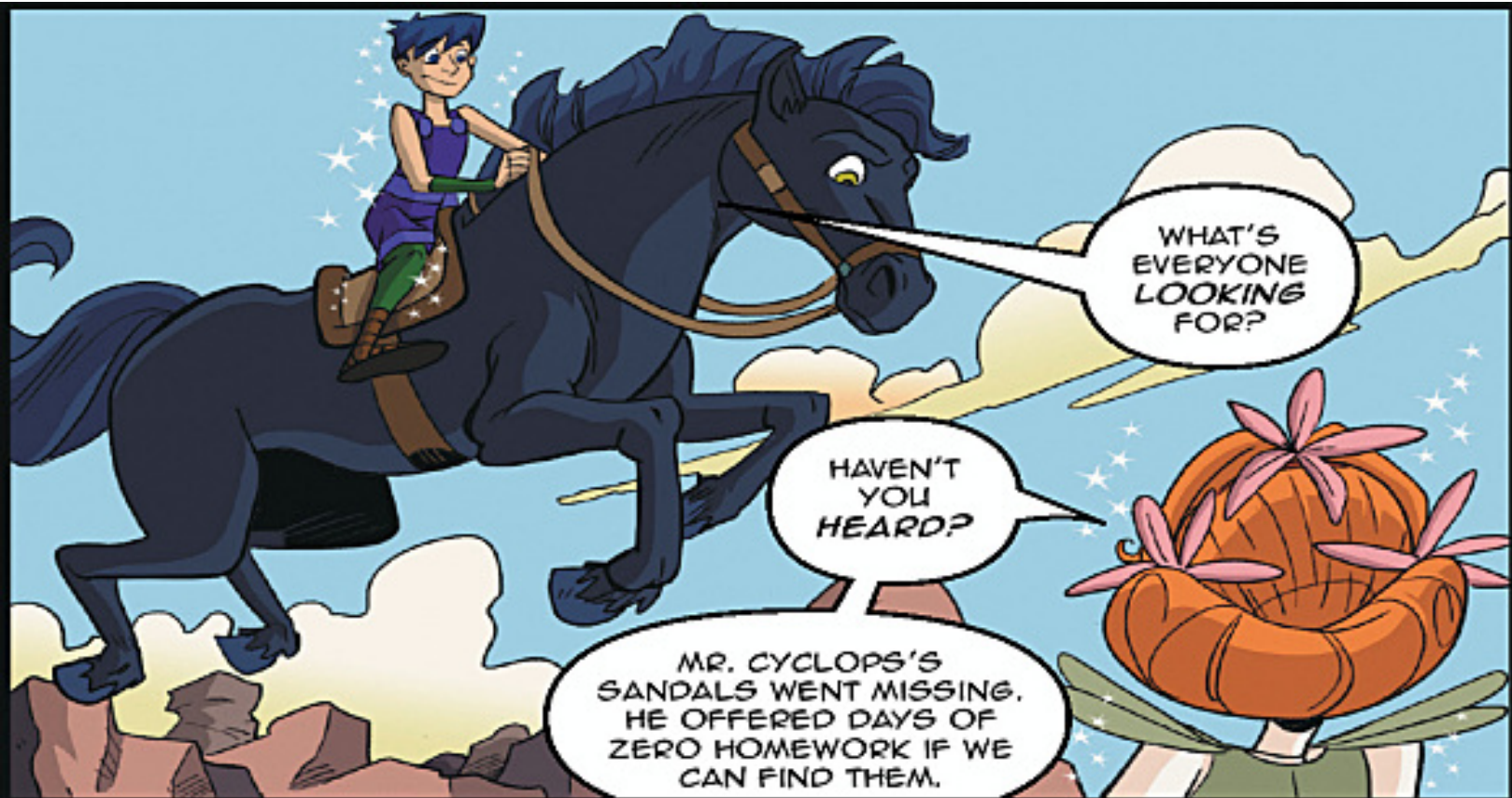
WHAT
TH—



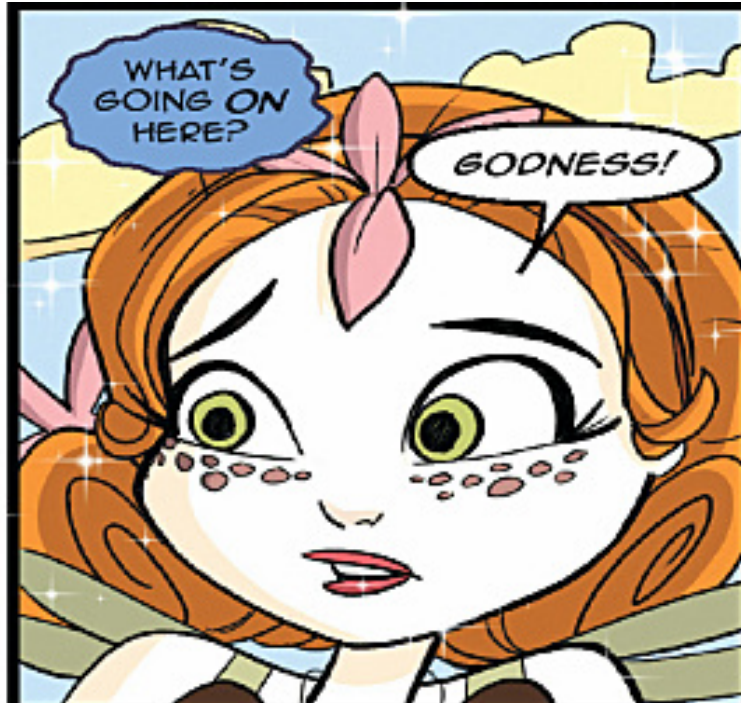


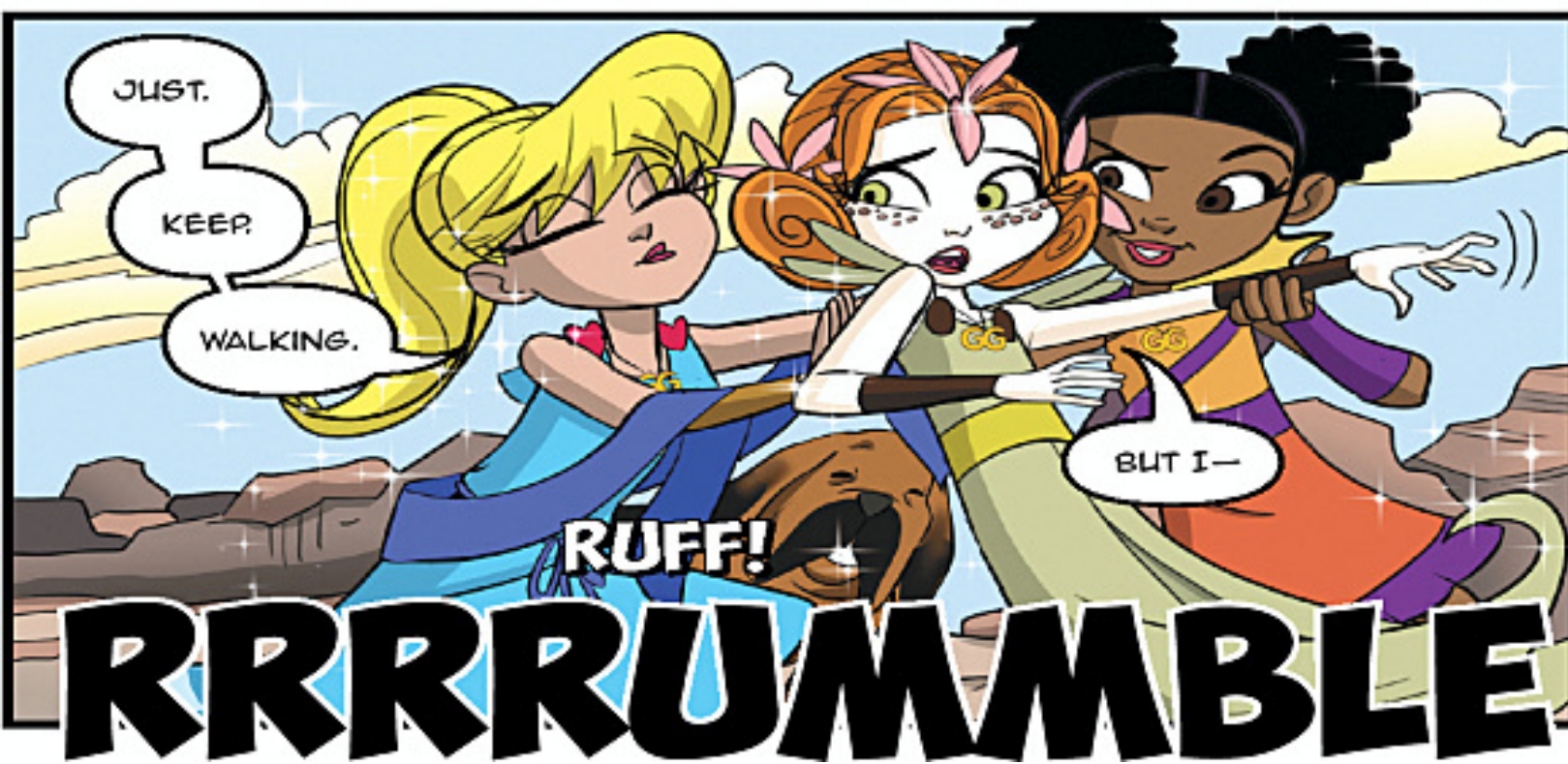
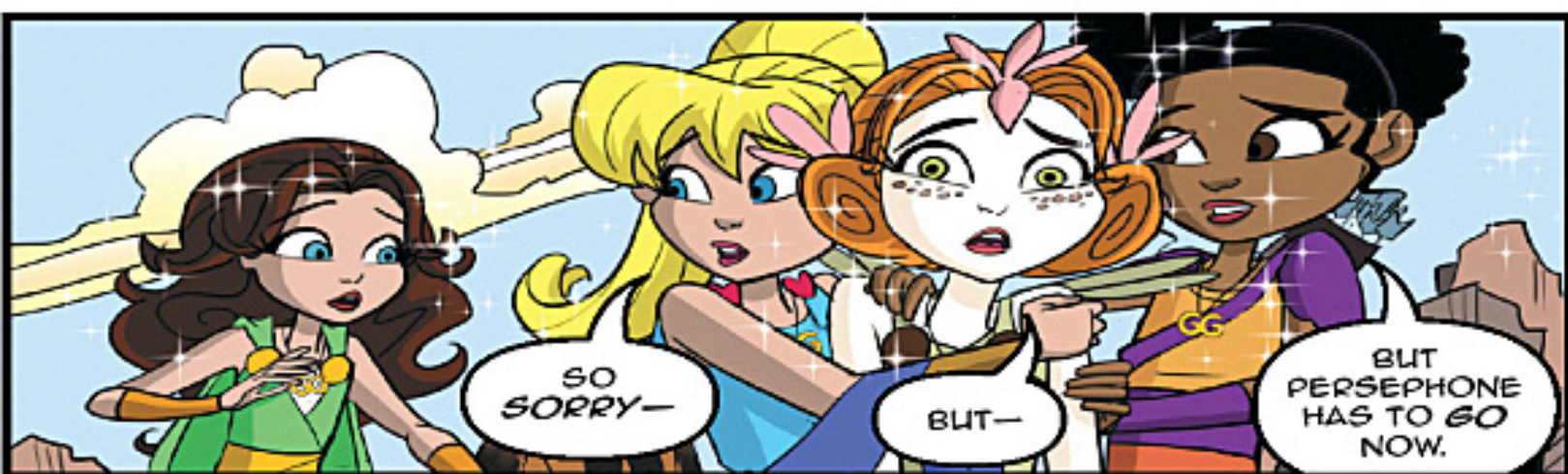


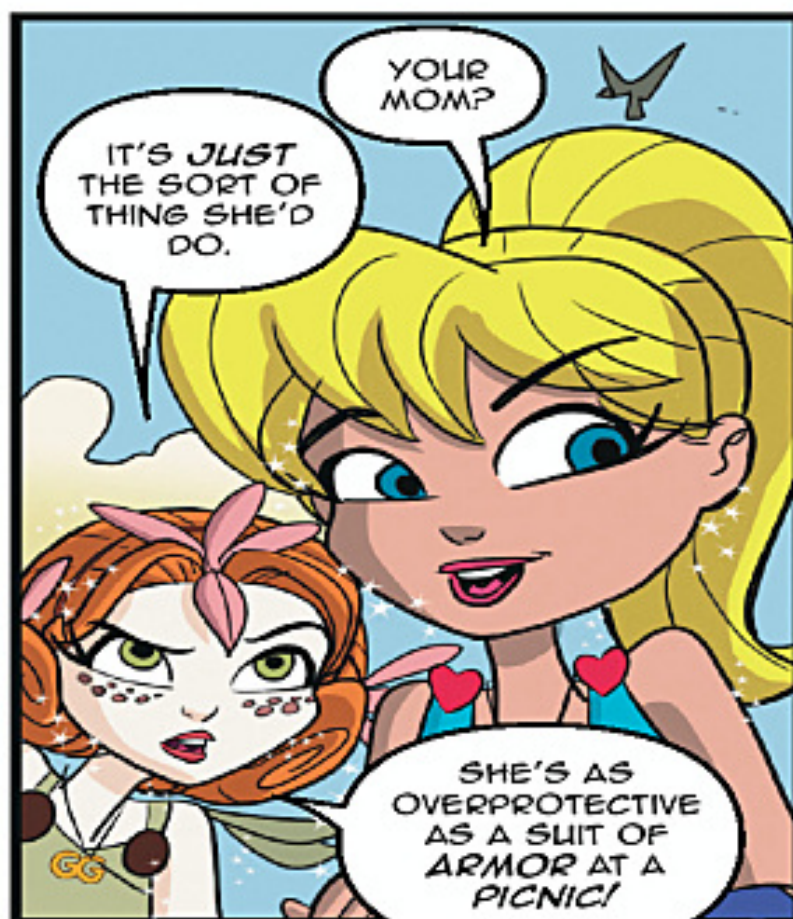
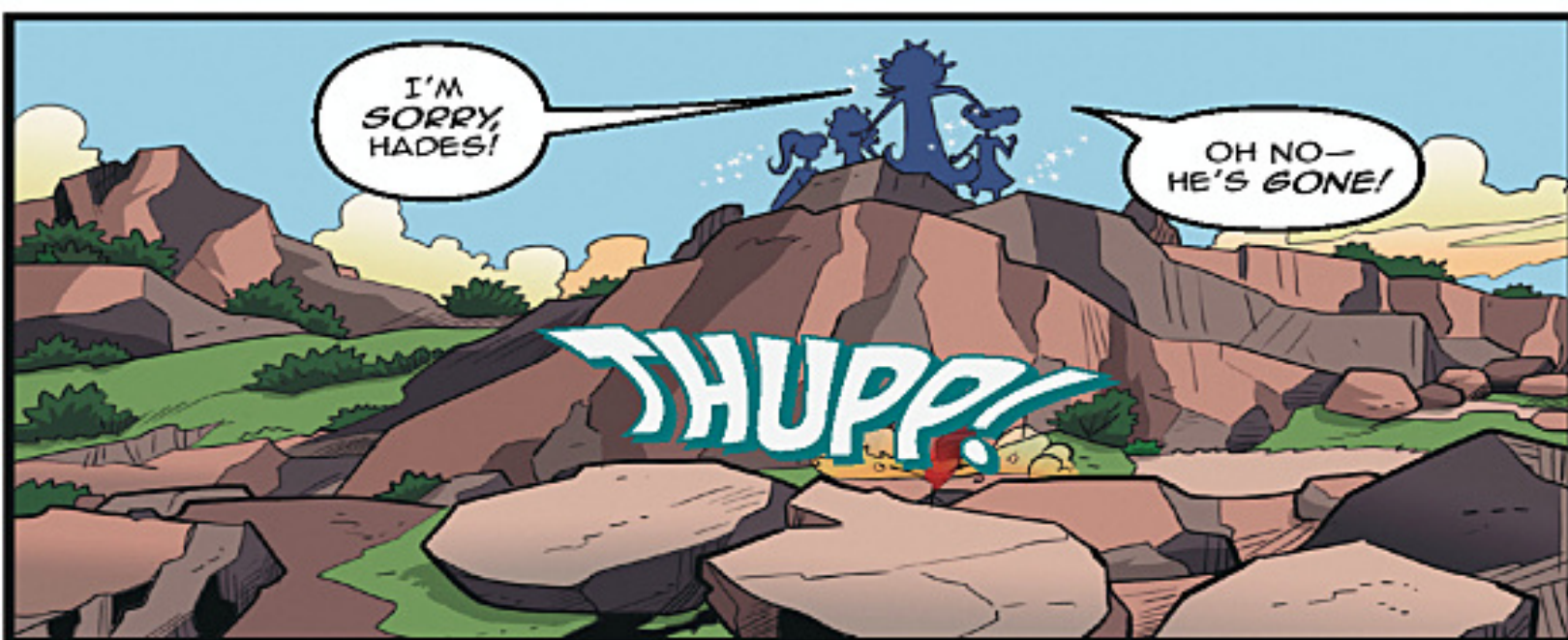












CHAPTER 6: THE SECOND SANDAL

THIS WAS
OUR IDEA,
PERSEPHONE.

YOU SIMPLY
CANNOT BE FRIENDS
WITH HADES.

DEMETER DIDN'T
SAY ANYTHING TO
ANY OF US.

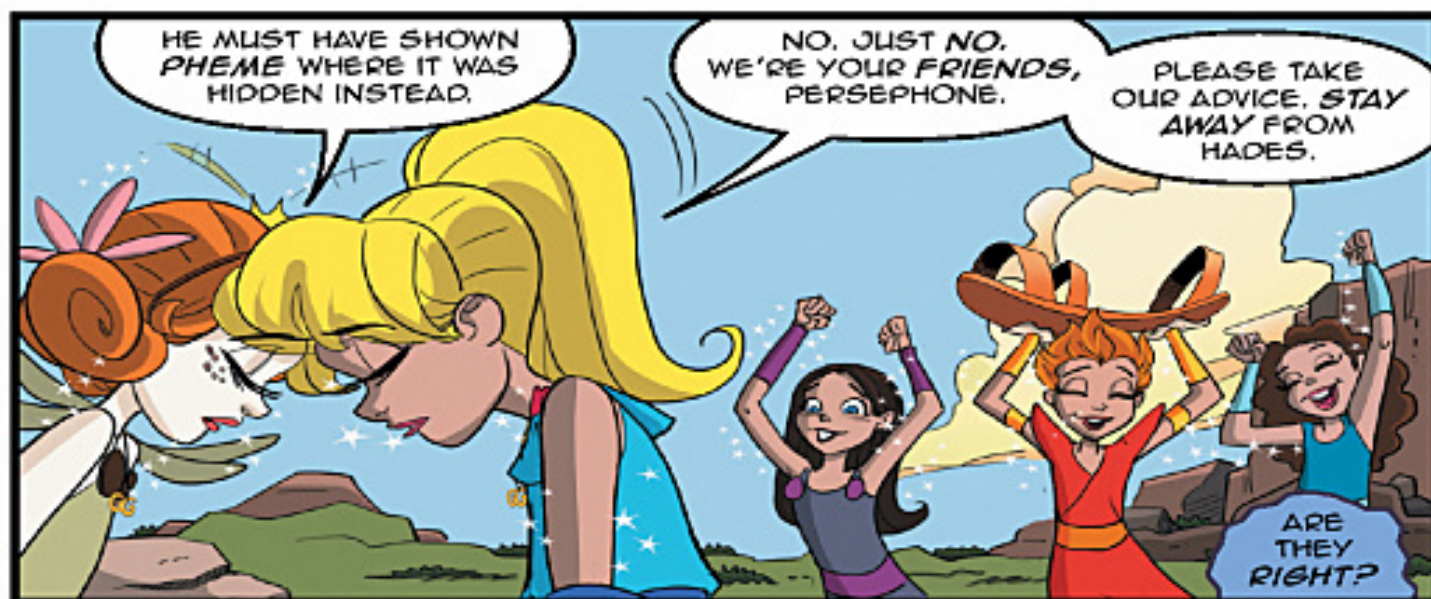
SHE CERTAINLY
DIDN'T KNOW WE'D
ALL BE HERE.

BECAUSE
HE IS FROM...

...THE
UNDERWORLD.







I CAN'T
SLEEP A
WINK.

I FIND MYSELF DISSECTING
EVERY WORD, EVERY MOVEMENT,
EVERY BREATH HADES SAID
OR MADE AROUND ME...

...AND I RUN THEM THROUGH A
SIEVE MADE OF MY FRIENDS'
WORDS AND WARNINGS.

I KNOW
I NEED TO
TALK TO HADES
AGAIN.

HEY,
PERSEPHONE.

JUST
NOT AT THIS
MOMENT.

NOT WITH
FRIENDS
JUDGING.

GOOD
MORNING!

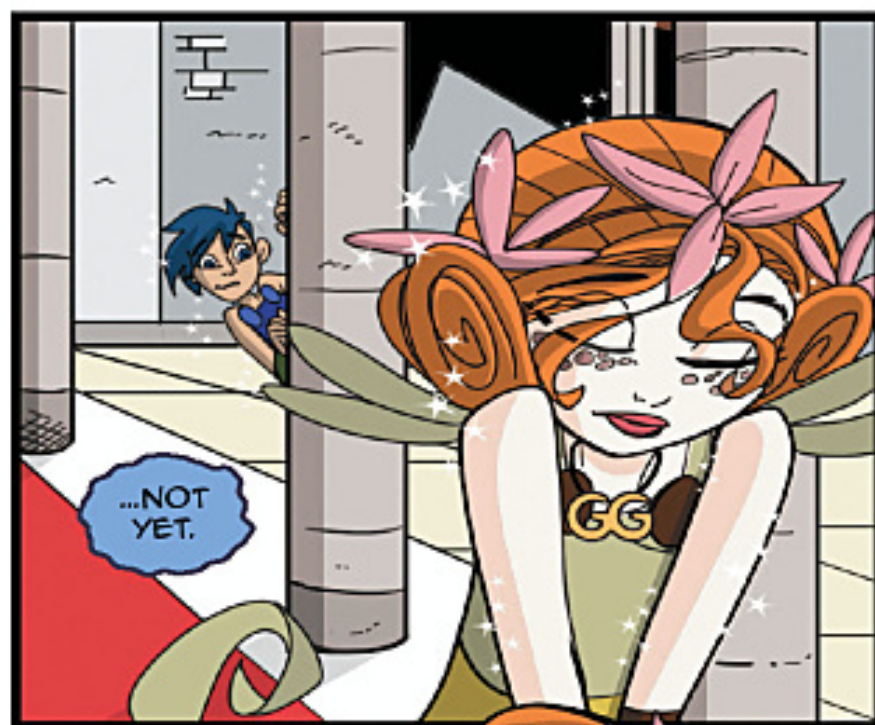
DID
YOU JUST
GET HERE?

YOU WERE
THERE AT RIVER
STYX, WEREN'T
YOU?

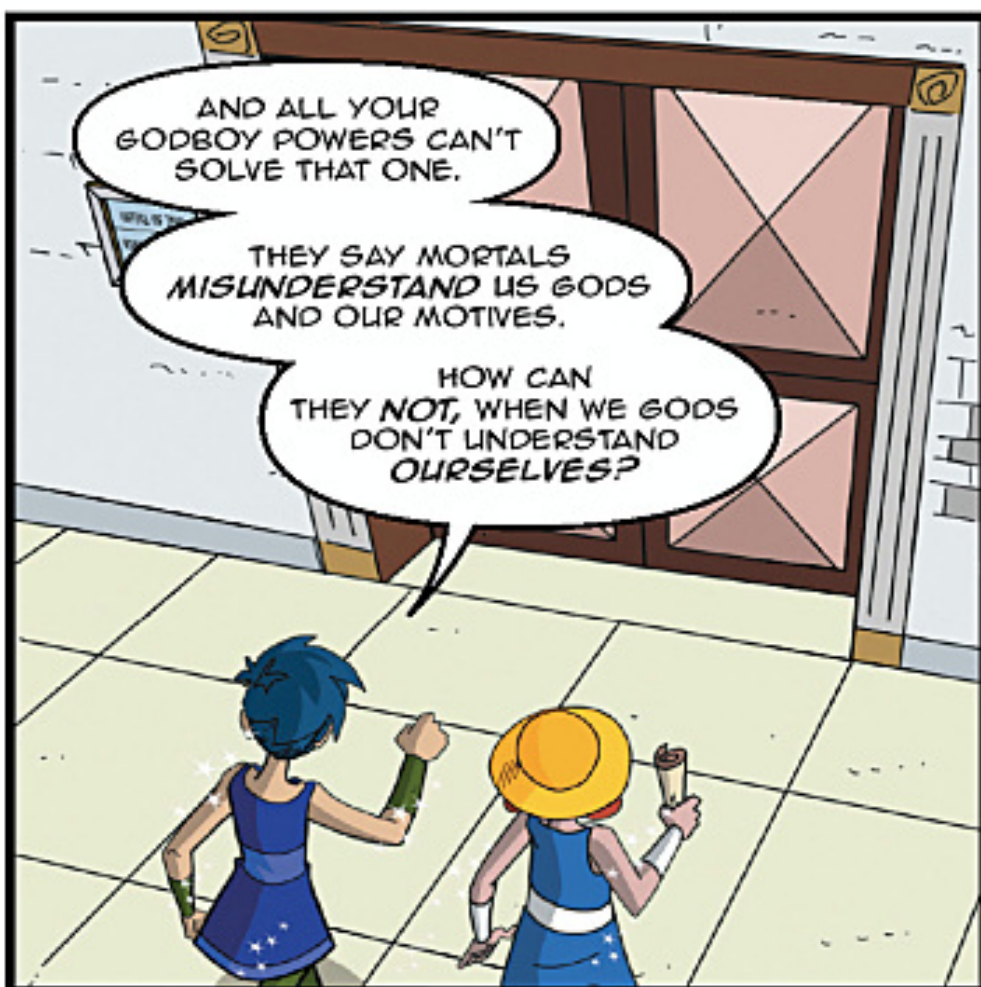
DO YOU THINK
SOMEONE WILL TAKE
MR. CYCLOPS'S
SANDALS AGAIN?

NOPE,
NEVER, AT
LEAST NOT TILL
TOMORROW.

NOT WITH
THEM ASKING
QUESTIONS.







SO
NO HADES.

AM I
SADDENED? OR
RELIEVED?

I CAN'T
EVEN TELL THE TRUTH
TO MYSELF!

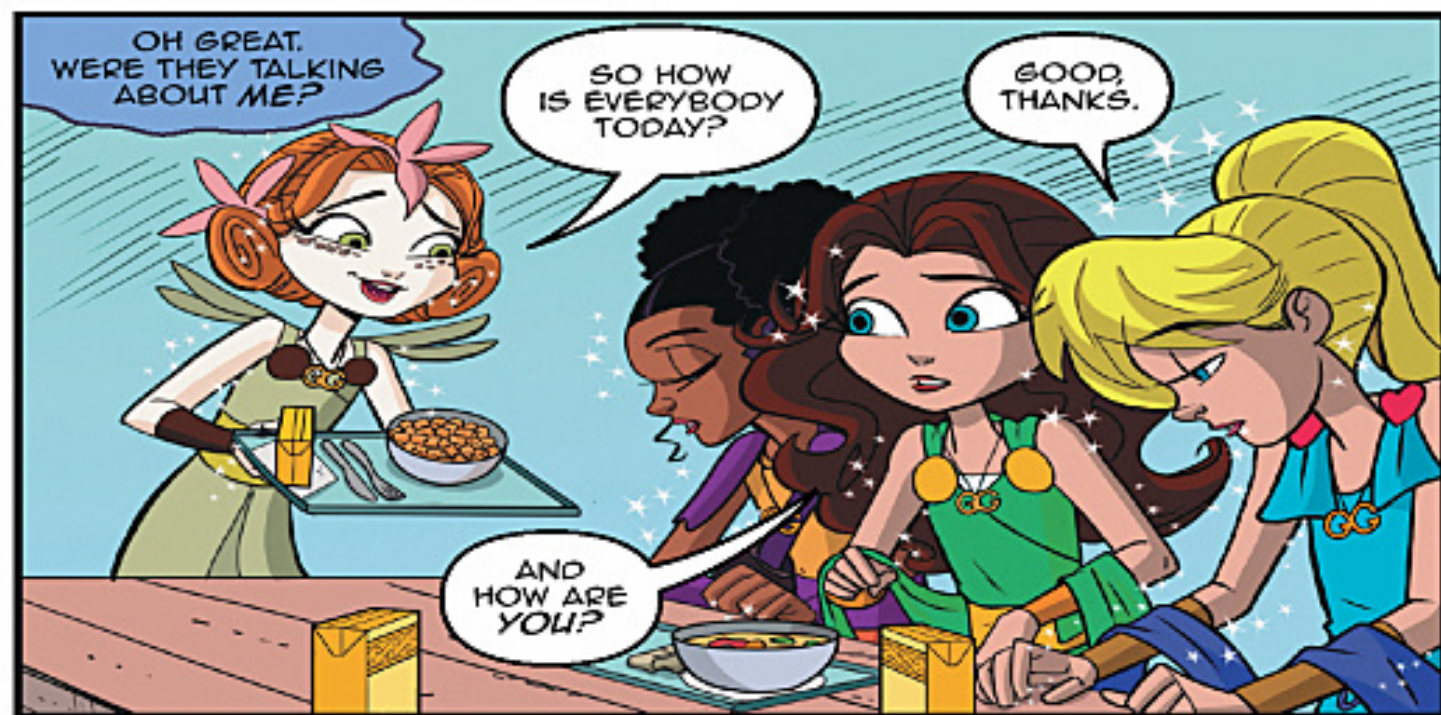
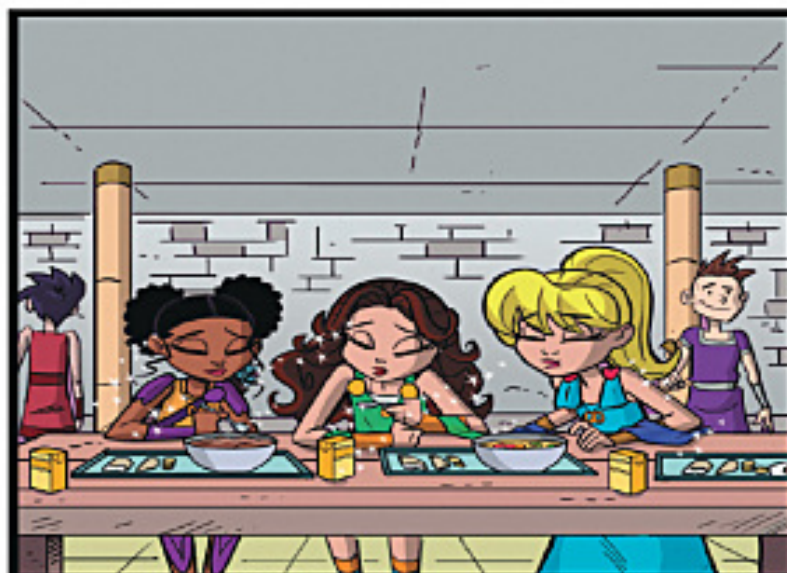
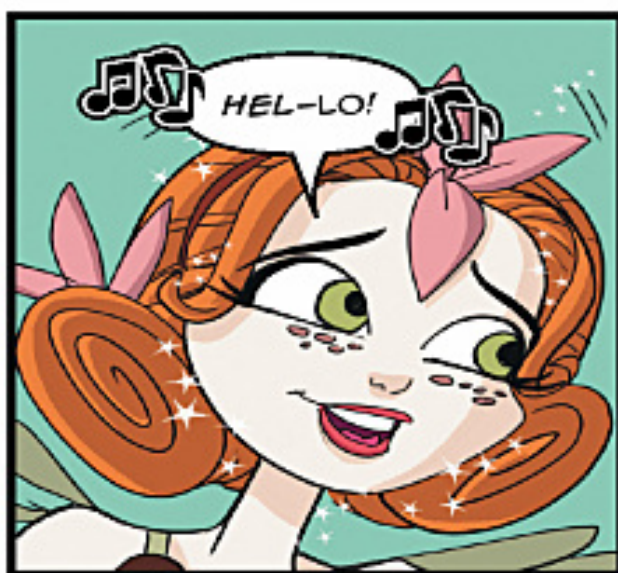
I'VE NEVER
EVEN SEEN HADES
HERE IN THE CAFETERIA.
DOES HE EAT
SOMEWHERE
ELSE?

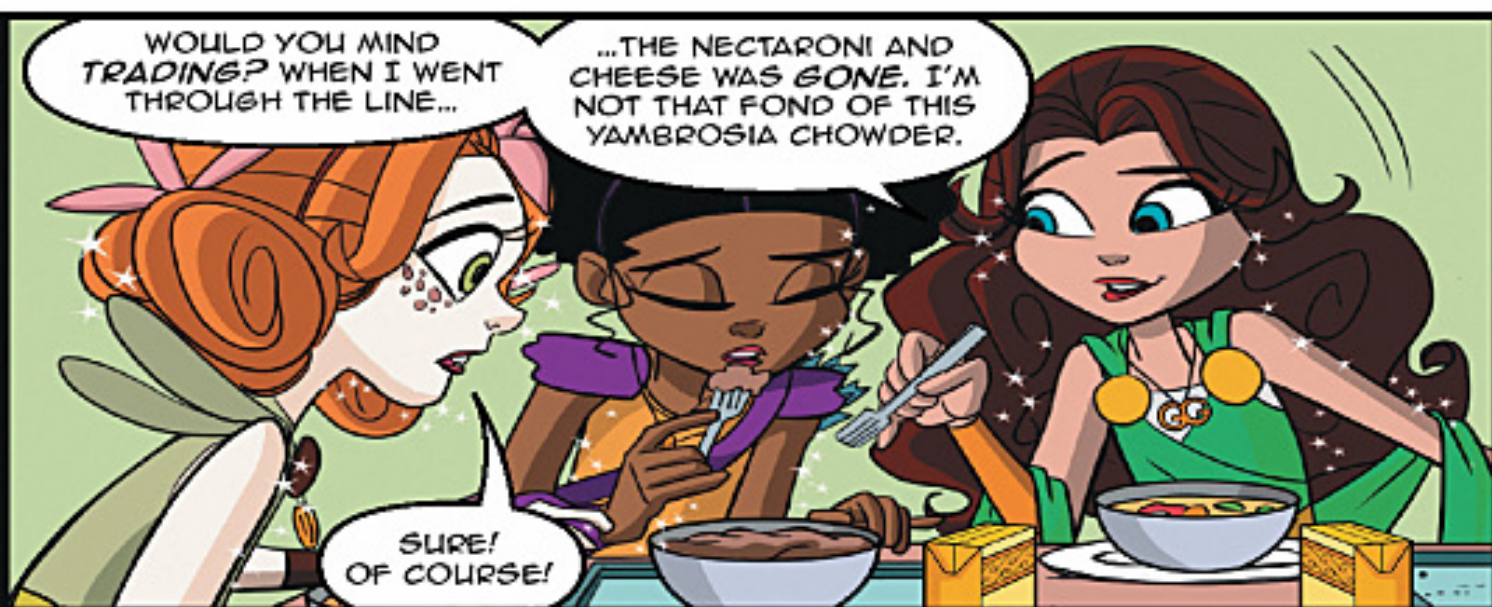
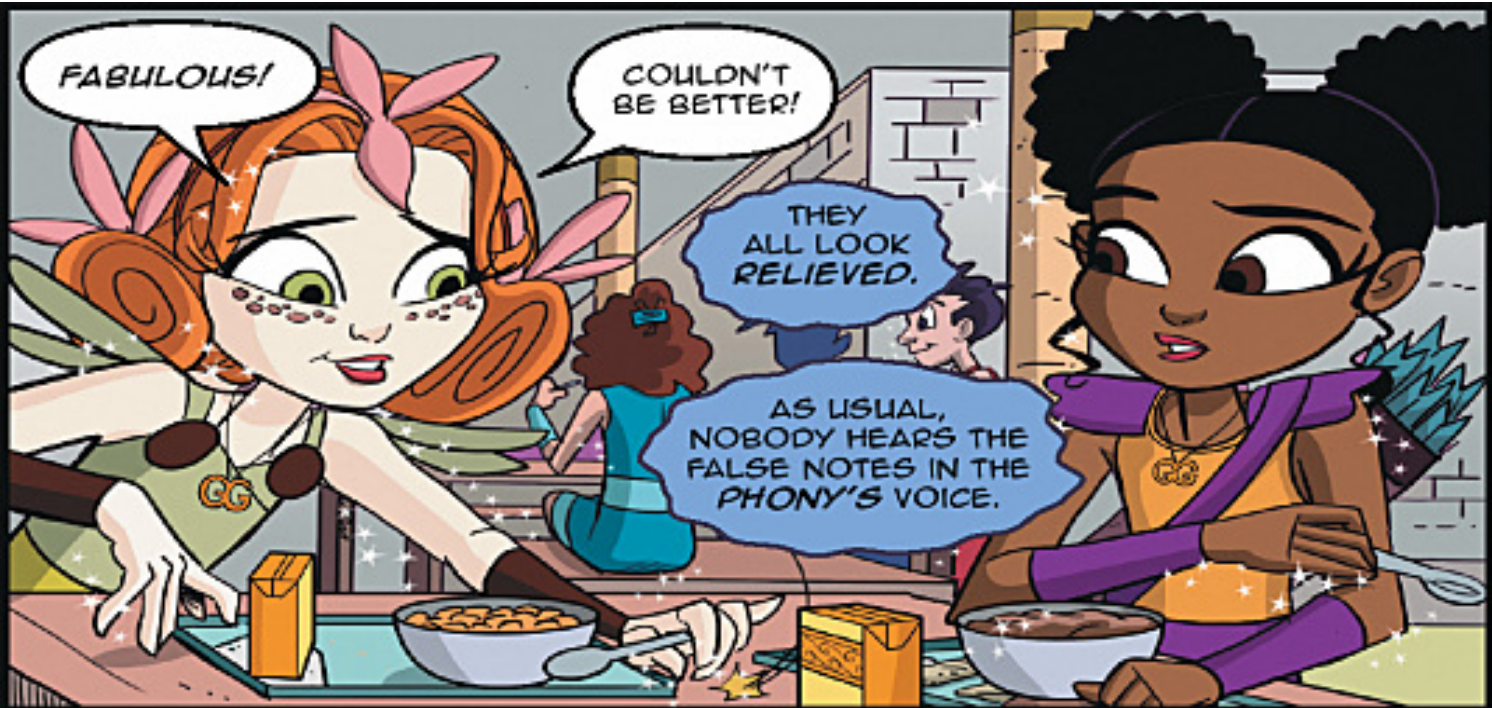
HE PROBABLY
DOESN'T EVEN HAVE
ANY FRIENDS.

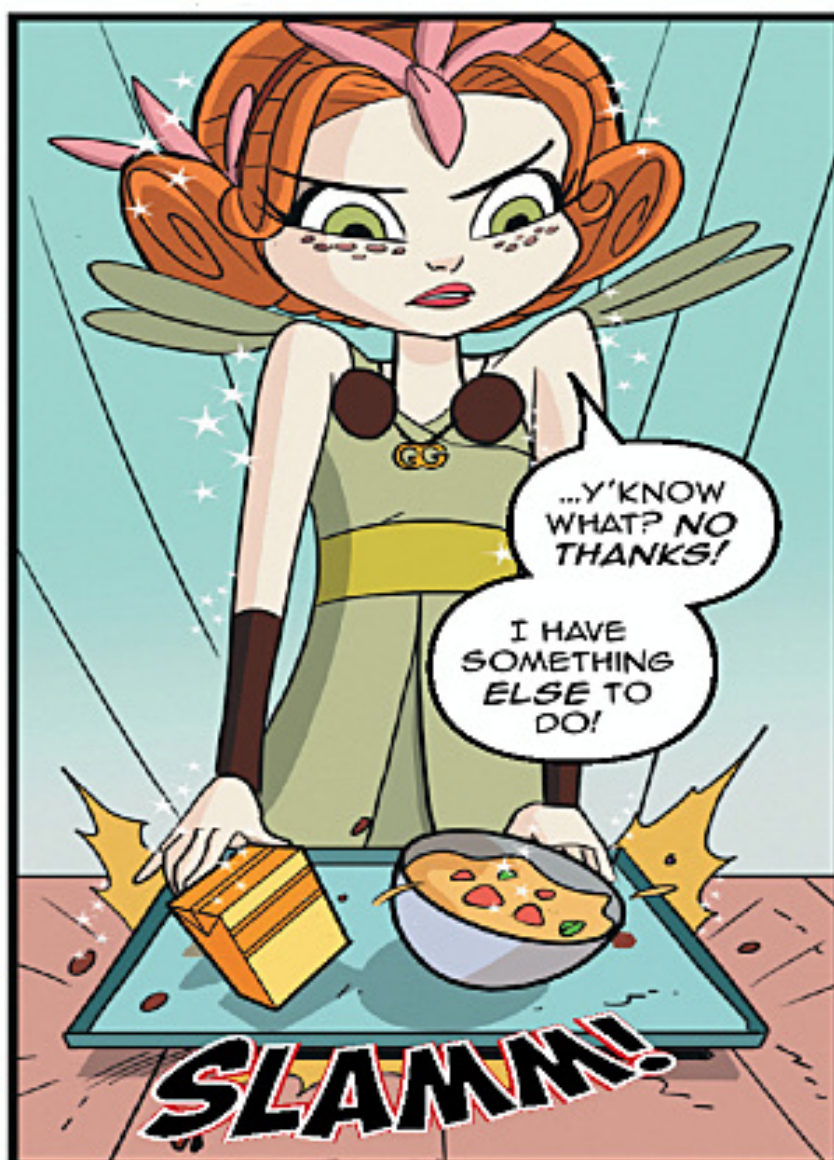
SHOULD
I HAVE AVOIDED
HIM?

WHAT
ELSE COULD
I DO?







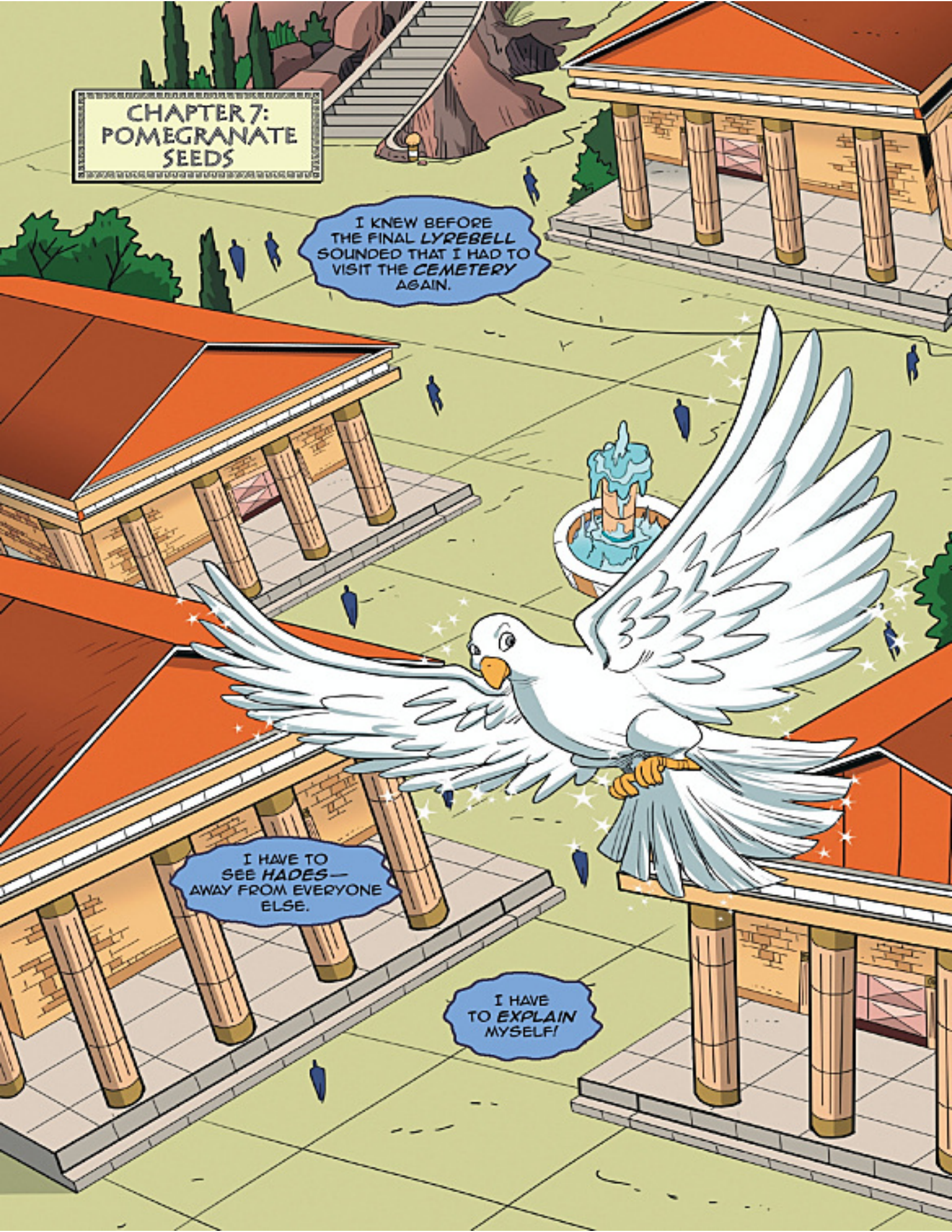


CHAPTER 7: POMEGRANATE SEEDS

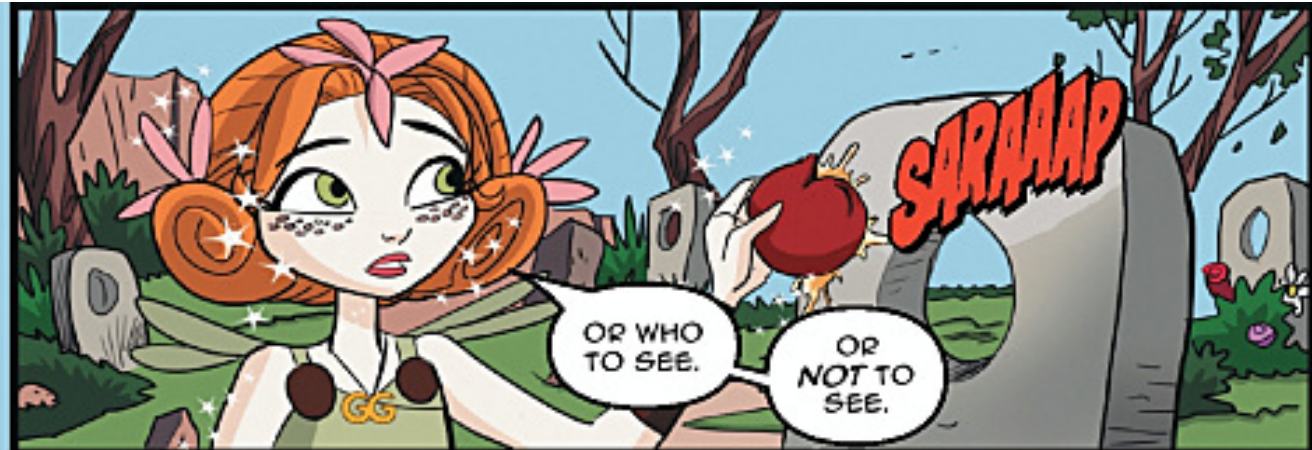
I KNEW BEFORE
THE FINAL LYREBELL
SOUNDED THAT I HAD TO
VISIT THE CEMETERY
AGAIN.

I HAVE TO
SEE HADES—
AWAY FROM EVERYONE
ELSE.

I HAVE
TO EXPLAIN
MYSELF!

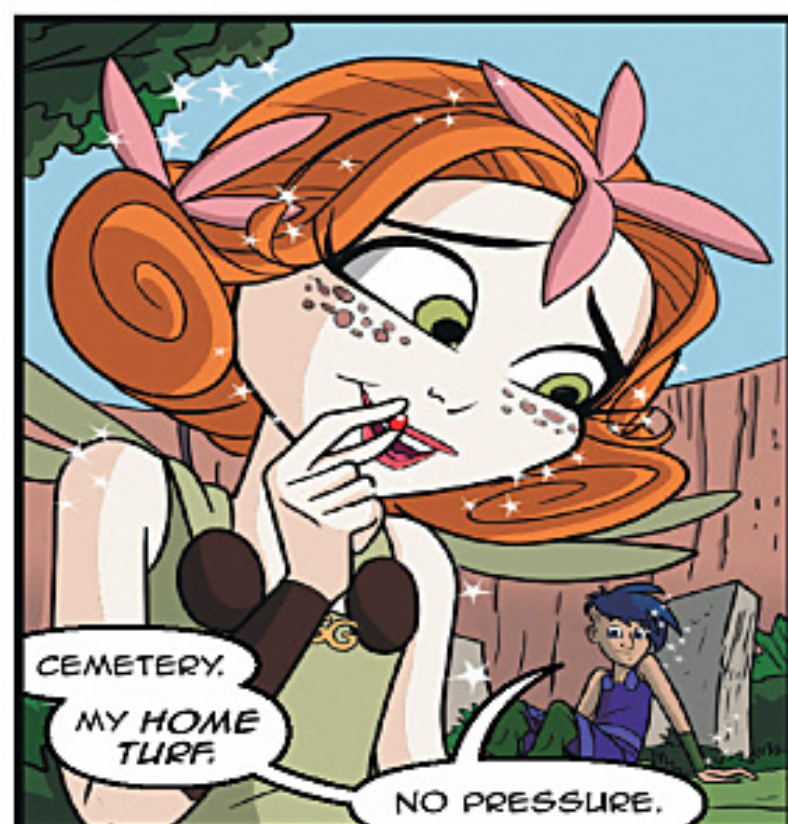
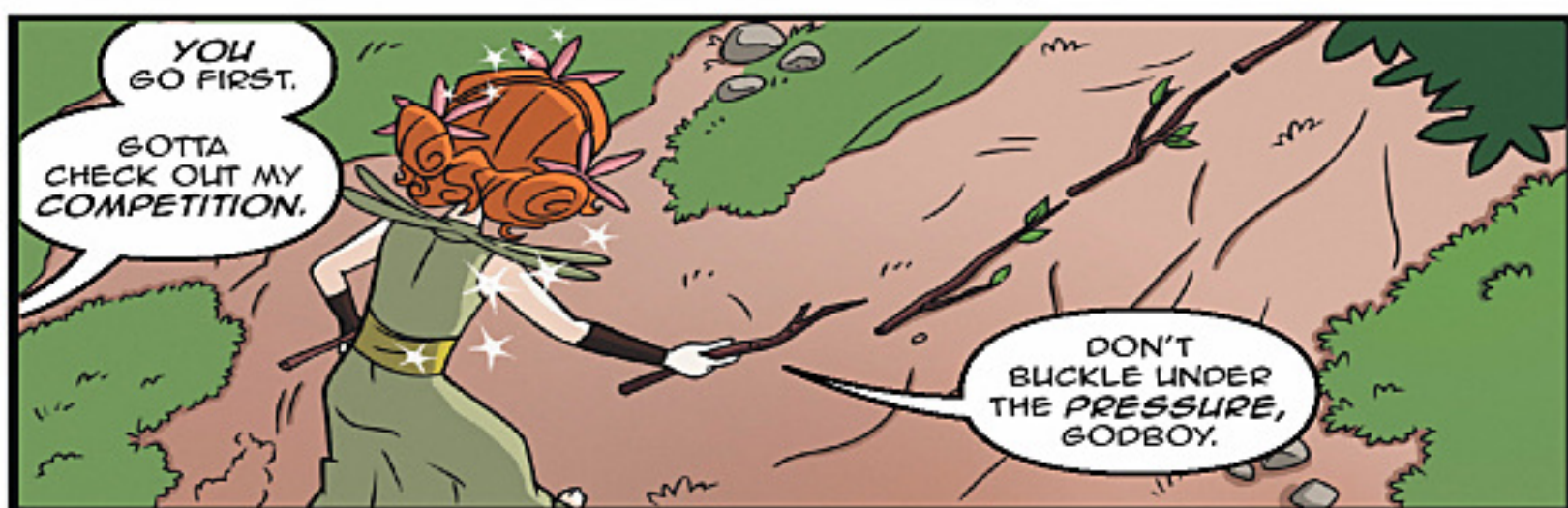




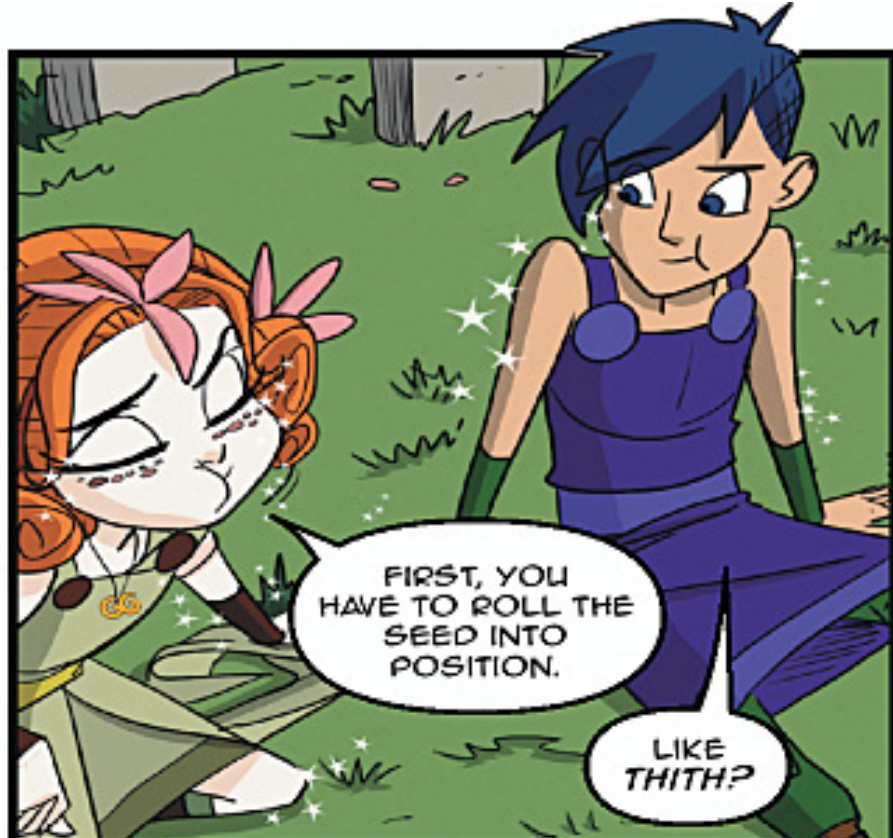


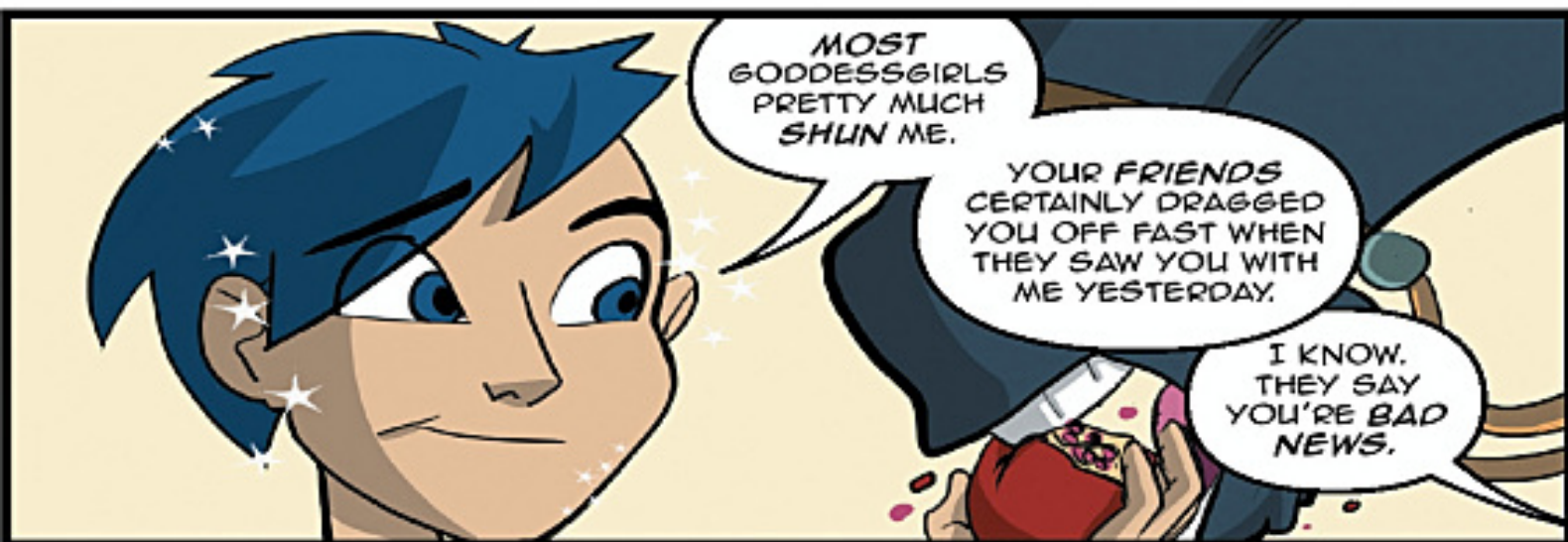






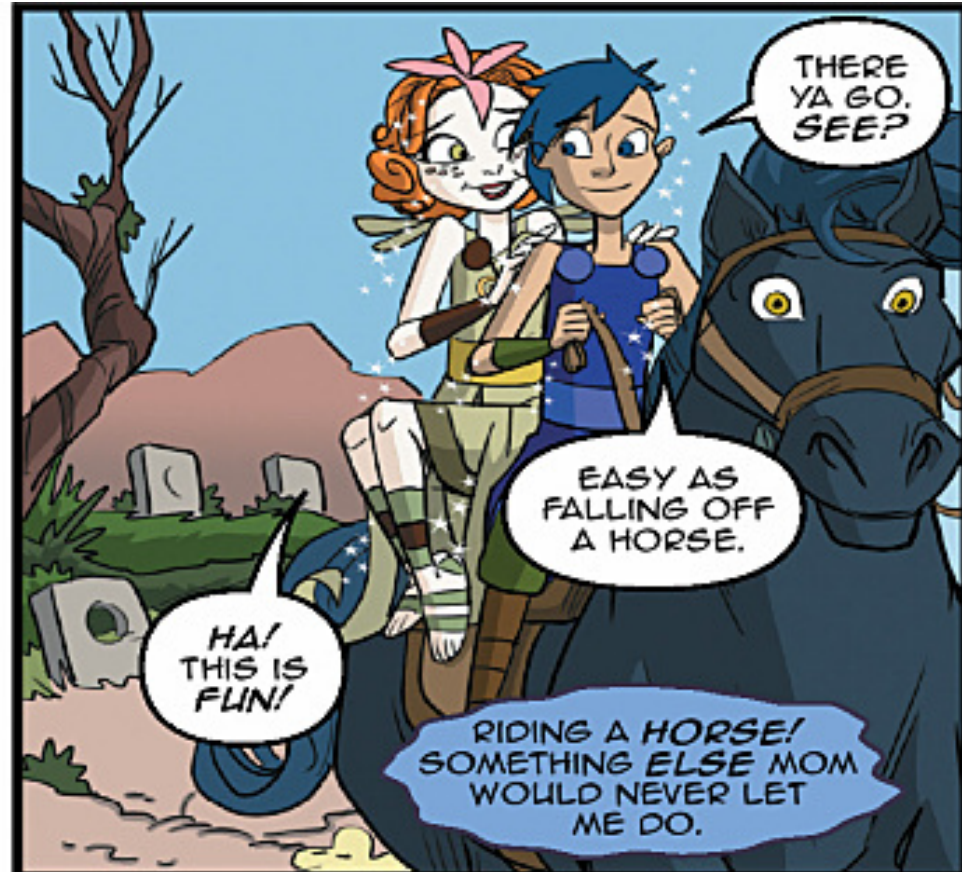












THERE
YA GO.
SEE?

EASY AS
FALLING OFF
A HORSE.

HA!
THIS IS
FUN!

RIDING A HORSE!
SOMETHING ELSE MOM
WOULD NEVER LET
ME DO.

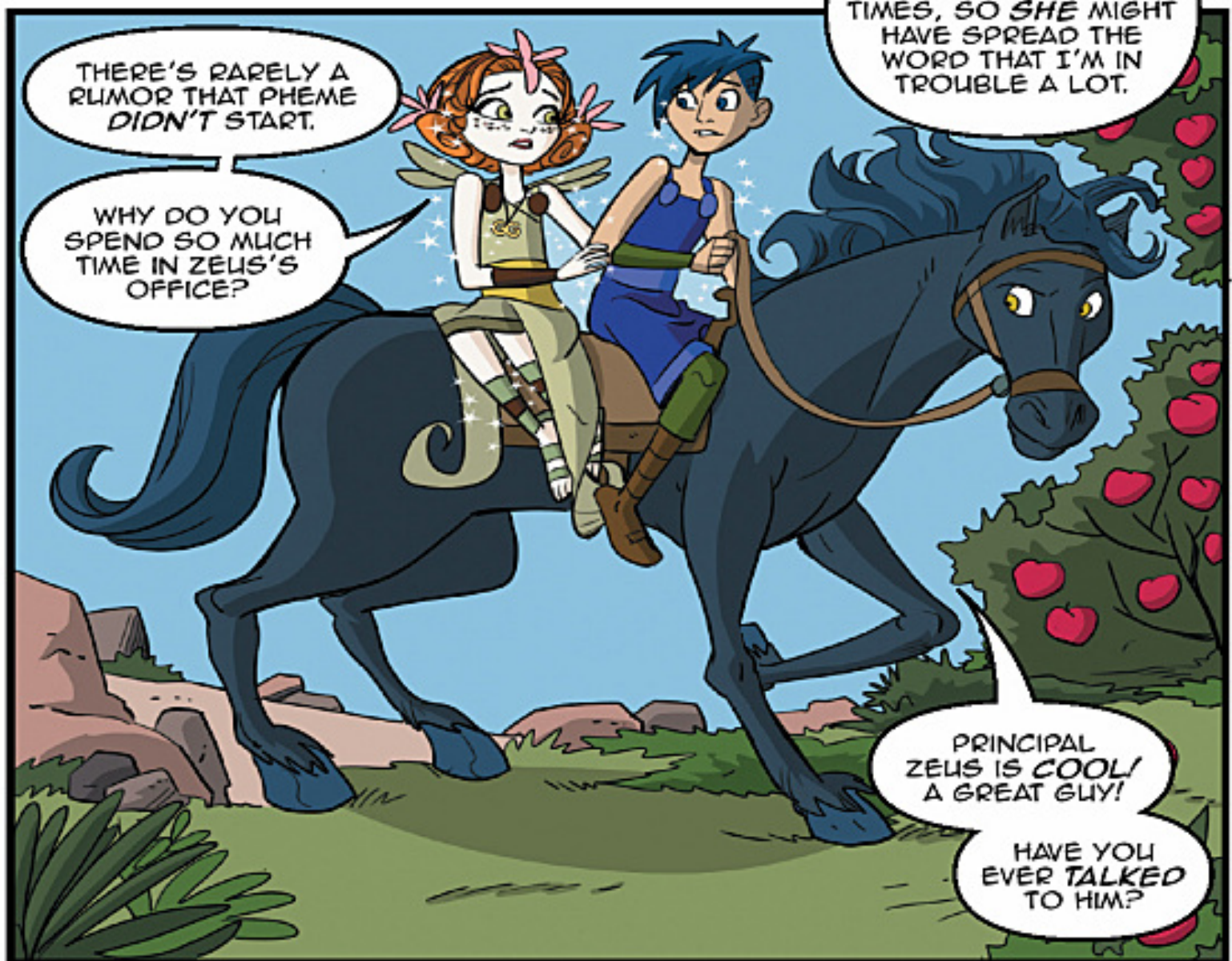


Y'KNOW, I'M
THINKING—

OH, ARE
YOU, NOW?

HA-HA!
MAYBE! I SPEND
A LOT OF TIME IN
PRINCIPAL ZEUS'S
OFFICE.

PHEME SPOTTED
ME THERE A FEW
TIMES, SO SHE MIGHT
HAVE SPREAD THE
WORD THAT I'M IN
TROUBLE A LOT.



THERE'S RARELY A
RUMOR THAT PHEME
DIDN'T START.

WHY DO YOU
SPEND SO MUCH
TIME IN ZEUS'S
OFFICE?

PRINCIPAL
ZEUS IS COOL!
A GREAT GUY!

HAVE YOU
EVER TALKED
TO HIM?

MAY I TALK
TO PRINCIPAL
ZEUS?

OH NO.
HE'S KIND
OF SCARY.

HUGE, THUNDEROUS,
ELECTRIFIED KING OF THE
GODS, RULER OF THE HEAVENS,
AND OUR PRINCIPAL?
SURE, I GET THAT.

BUT I KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE
TO BE JUDGED UNFAIRLY. WHEN
ZEUS HEARD SOME GODBOYS
GIVE ME A HARD TIME...

...HE INVITED
ME TO EAT LUNCH
IN HIS OFFICE
EVERY DAY.

SOMETIMES I *STUDY*
THERE TOO. OR WE
JUST TALK.

WOW. THE ONLY
OTHER STUDENT I KNOW
WHO JUST TALKS TO HIM
IS ATHENA...

...AND ZEUS IS
HER DAD!

SO WHAT
DO YOU TALK
ABOUT?

...STUFF.

IS HE
EMBARRASSED?



OKAY,
THEN—NEW
SUBJECT!

HADES, DID
YOU REALLY KNOW
WHERE MR. CYCLOPS'S
OTHER SANDAL WAS—
THE ONE PHEME
FOUND?

YEP. IT
WASHED UP IN THE
UNDERWORLD, AND
I WANTED TO GIVE
IT TO YOU.

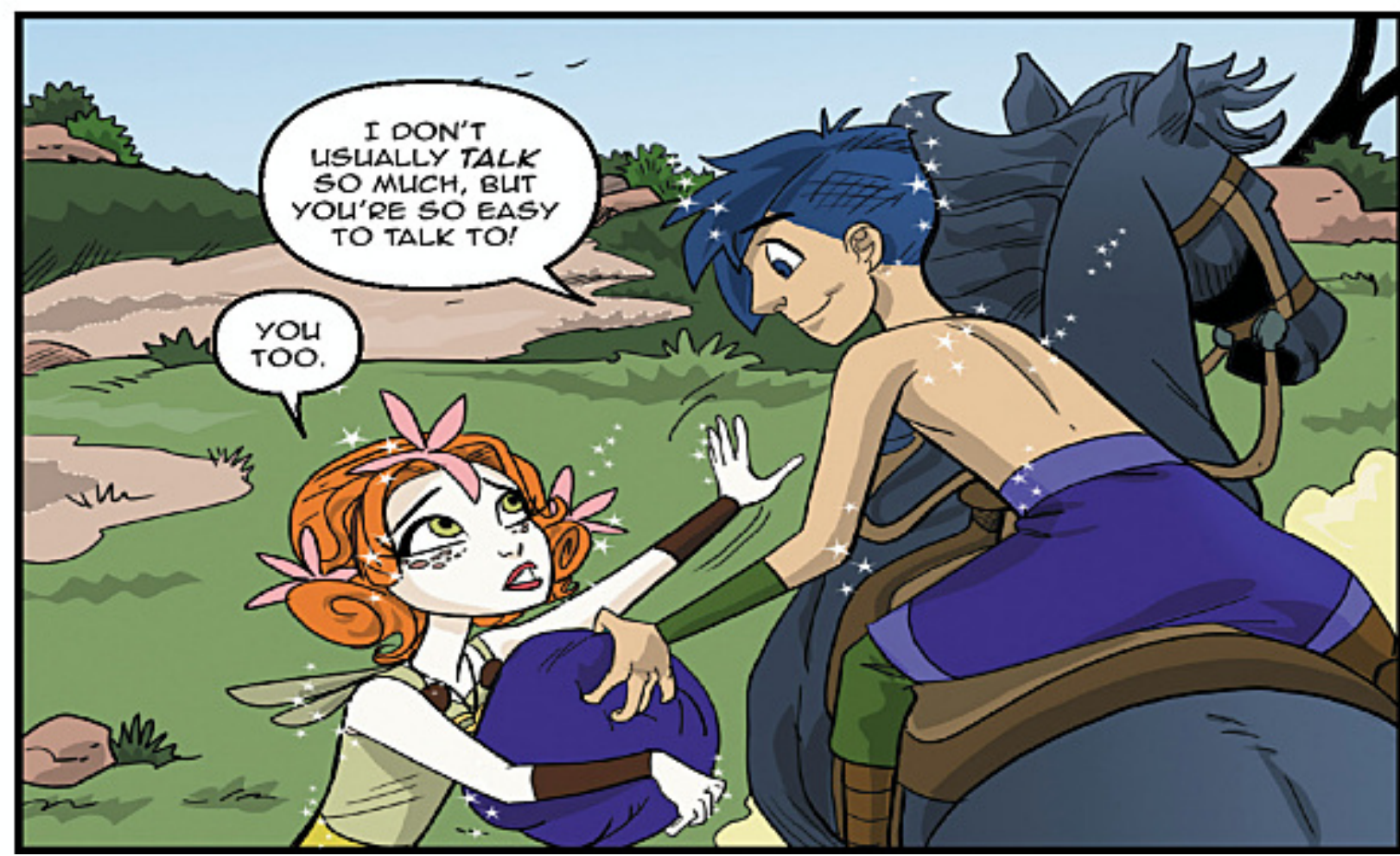
BUT IN THE
MEANTIME, THE
FERRYMAN CHARON
FOUND IT AND TOWED
IT UPRIVER.

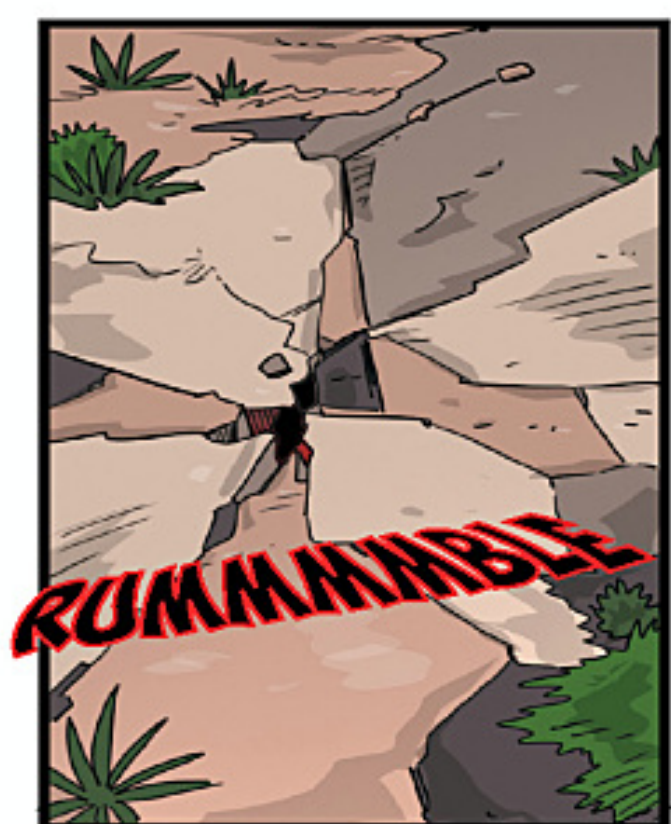
CHARON.
THE OLD MAN WHO
FERRIES THE DEAD
ACROSS THE RIVER
STYX TO THE
UNDERWORLD?

ONE AND
THE SAME!

CHARON'S
BEEN AN OLD
FERRYMAN FOR
LONGER THAN I'VE
BEEN ALIVE.

TALK
ABOUT JOB
SECURITY!



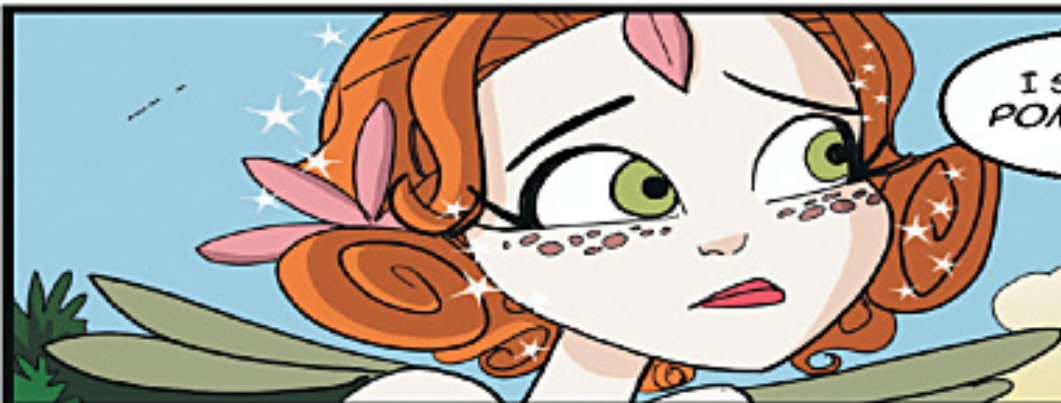




FIRST TIME
I'VE BECOME AN
EAGLE. LOTS OF
NEW EXPERIENCES
TODAY!

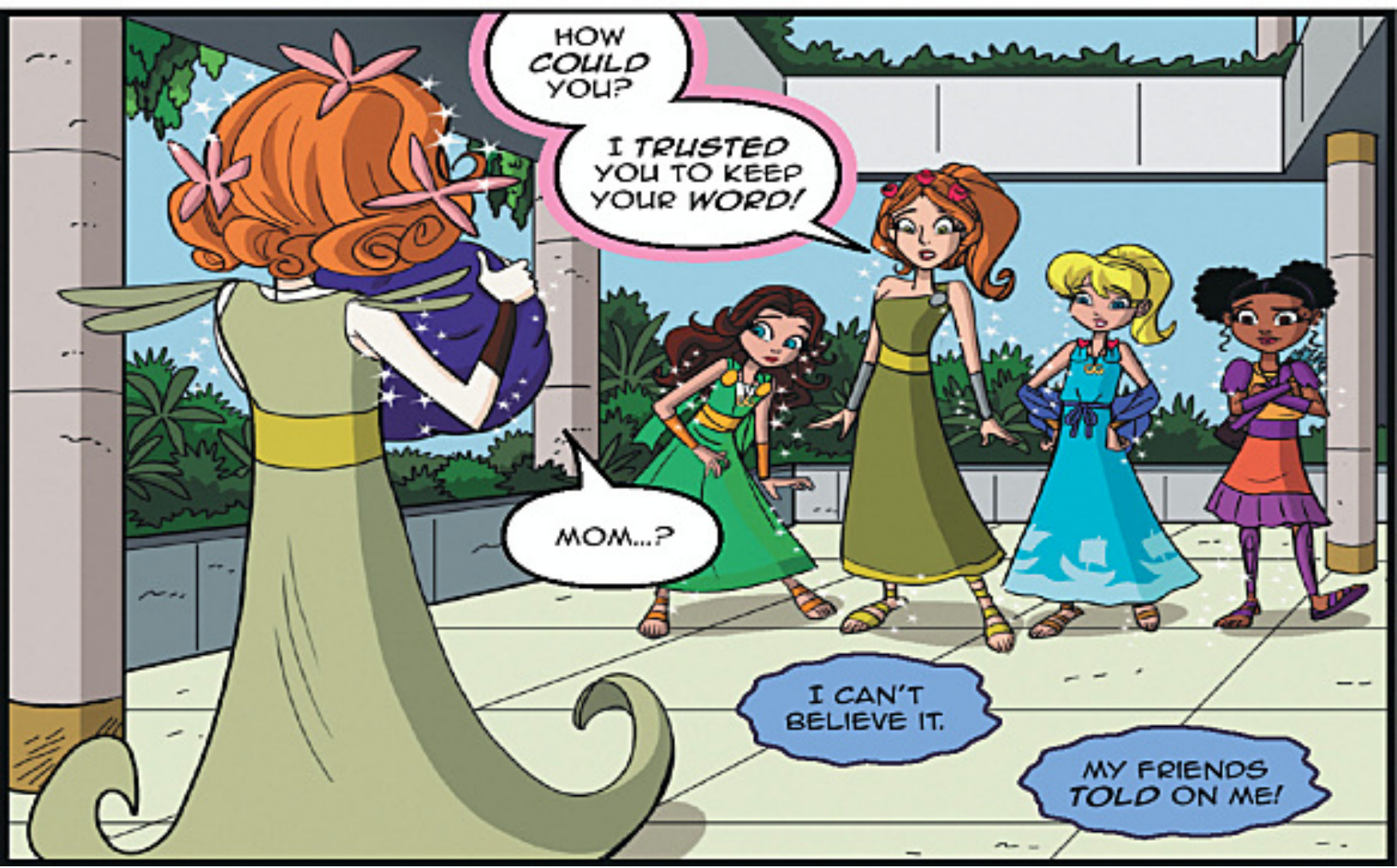
HI,
MOM!

I'M
HOME!



I STOPPED FOR
POMEGRANATES!

I HEAR
VOICES. YOU HAVE
GUESTS?



HOW
COULD
YOU?

I TRUSTED
YOU TO KEEP
YOUR WORD!

MOM...?

I CAN'T
BELIEVE IT.

MY FRIENDS
TOLD ON ME!

THOSE HAWKS
WERE ACTUALLY MY
FRIENDS—IN
DISGUISE!

YOU HAVE
NO IDEA OF THE
DANGERS OUT
THERE!

WHA—?

YOU COULD HAVE
GOTTEN LOST.

YOU
COULD'VE HURT
YOURSELF.

YOU
COULD'VE BEEN
ABDUCTED!

THEY WEREN'T
HUNTING BIRDS
OR RABBITS.

THEY WERE
HUNTING ME!

HOW
COULD I?



CHAPTER 8:
INTO THE
UNDERWORLD

LATER...

YOU'VE
BEEN IN THERE
AWHILE,
PERSEPHONE.

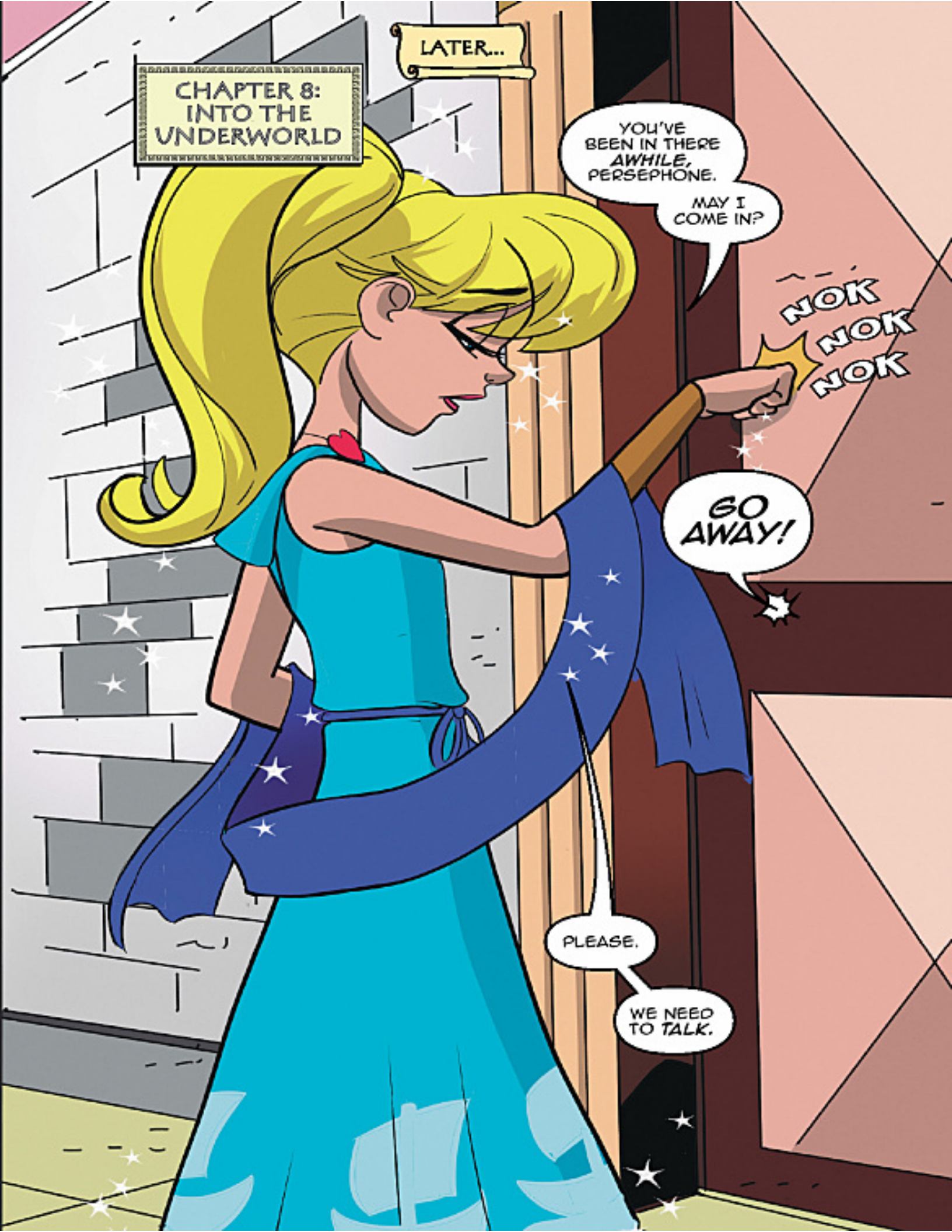
MAY I
COME IN?

NOK
NOK
NOK

GO
AWAY!

PLEASE.

WE NEED
TO TALK.





I DON'T
WANT TO. NOT
NOW, NOT
EVER!

IT'S NOT
LIKE YOU
THINK.

WE WERE
WORRIED ABOUT
YOU...

...AND YOUR MOM
PRACTICALLY MADE
US TELL HER.

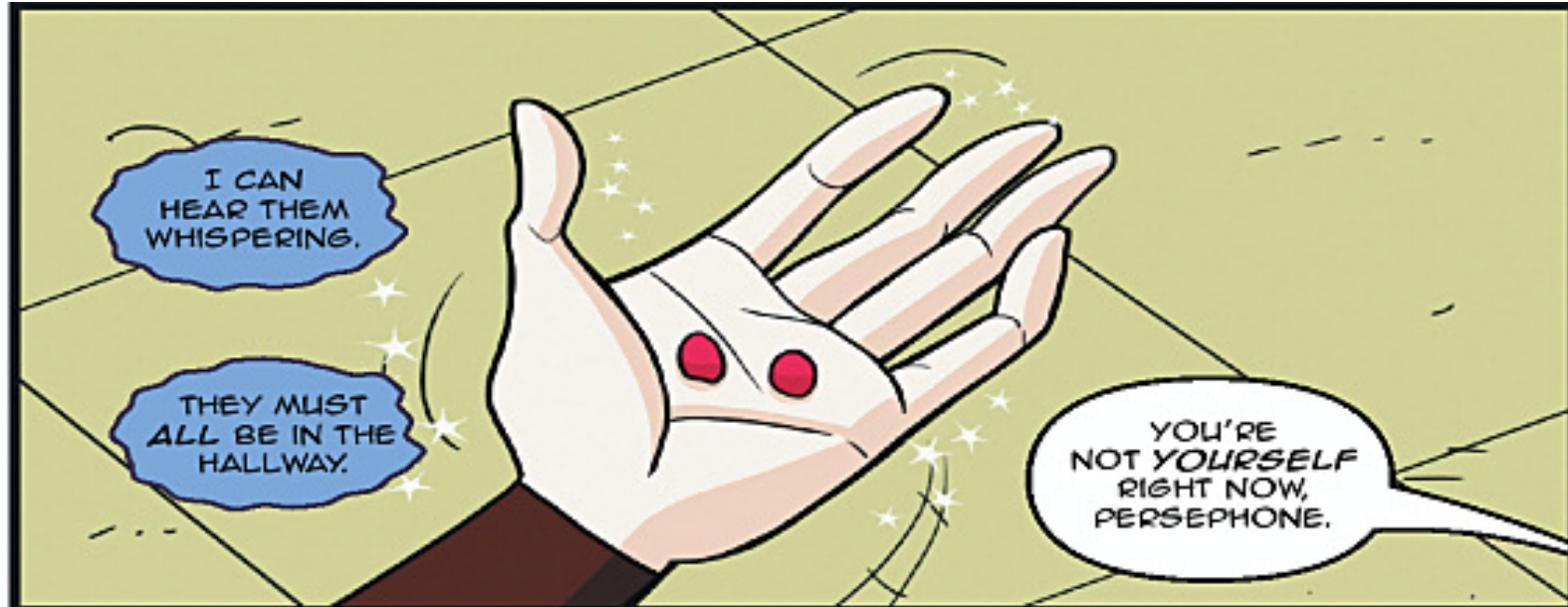
WE DIDN'T
MEAN TO GET
YOU INTO
TROUBLE.

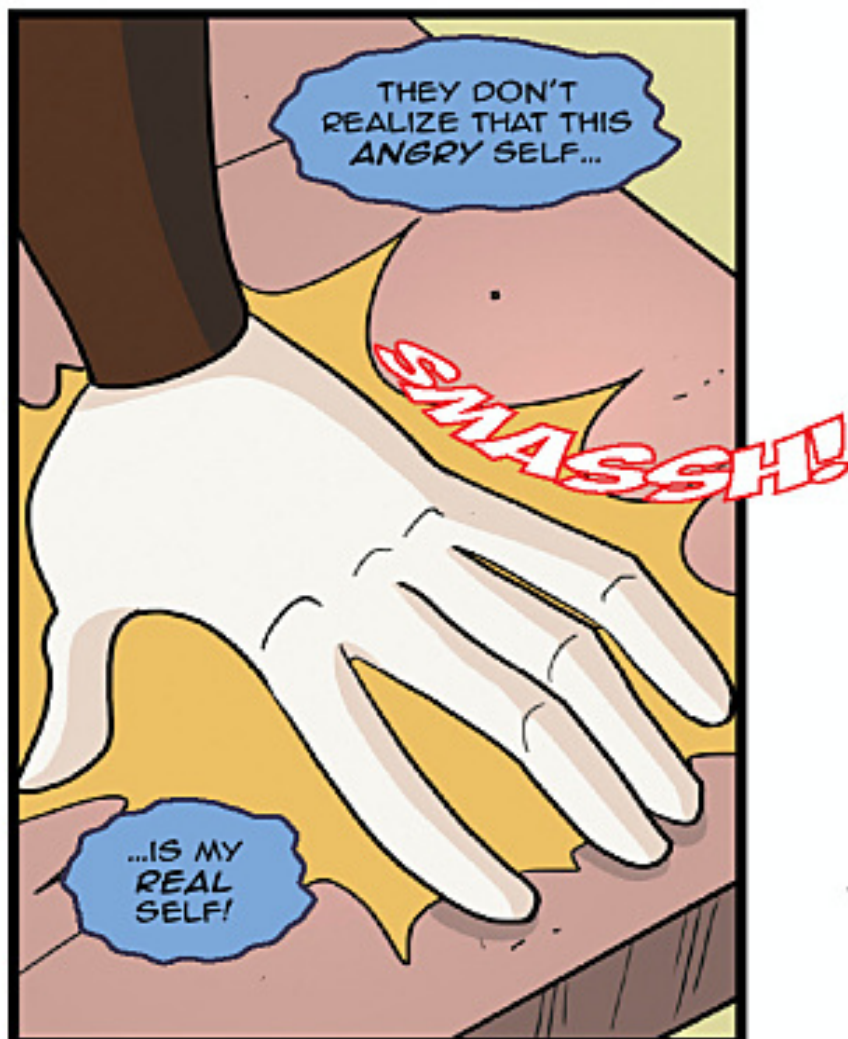
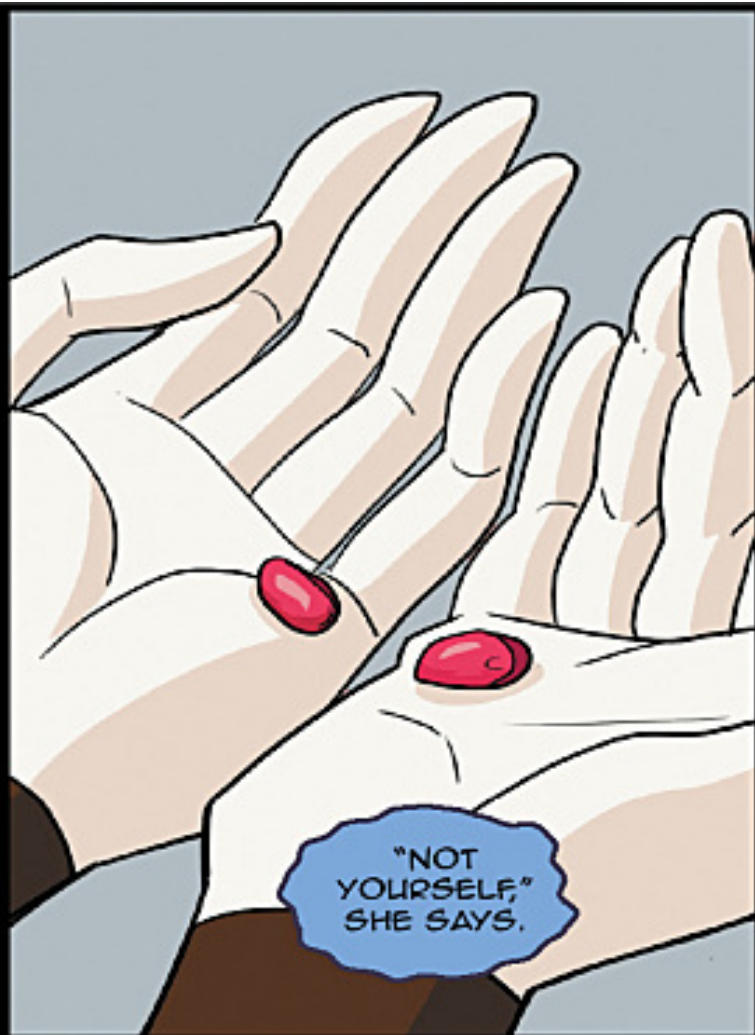


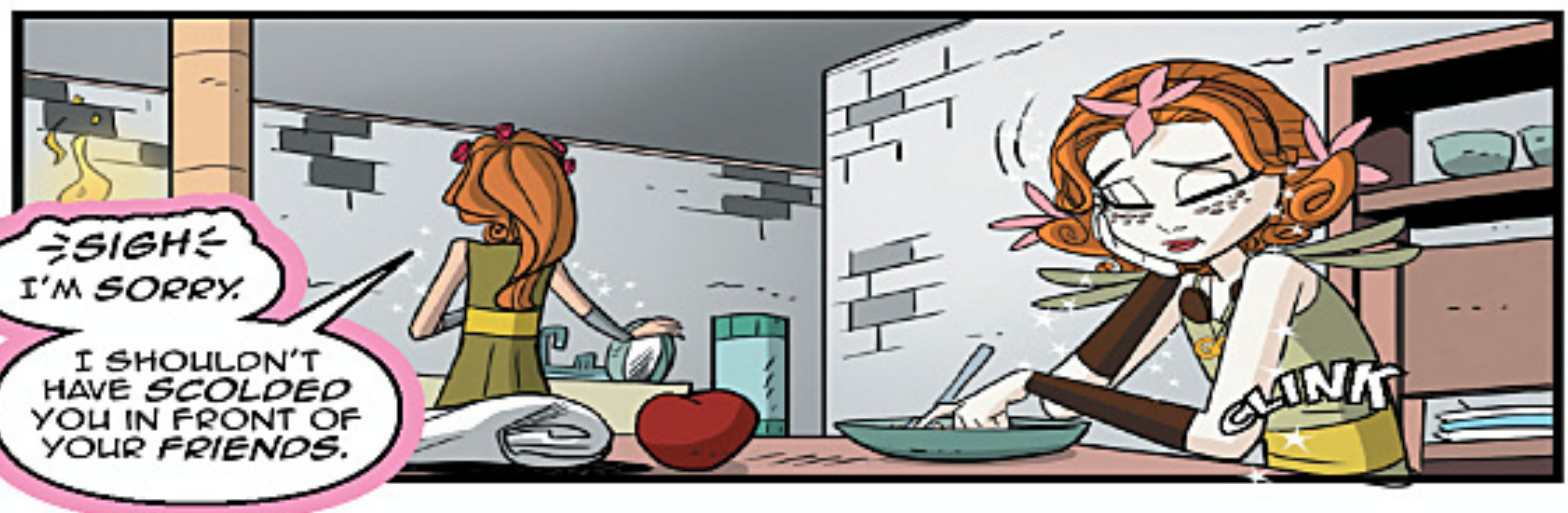
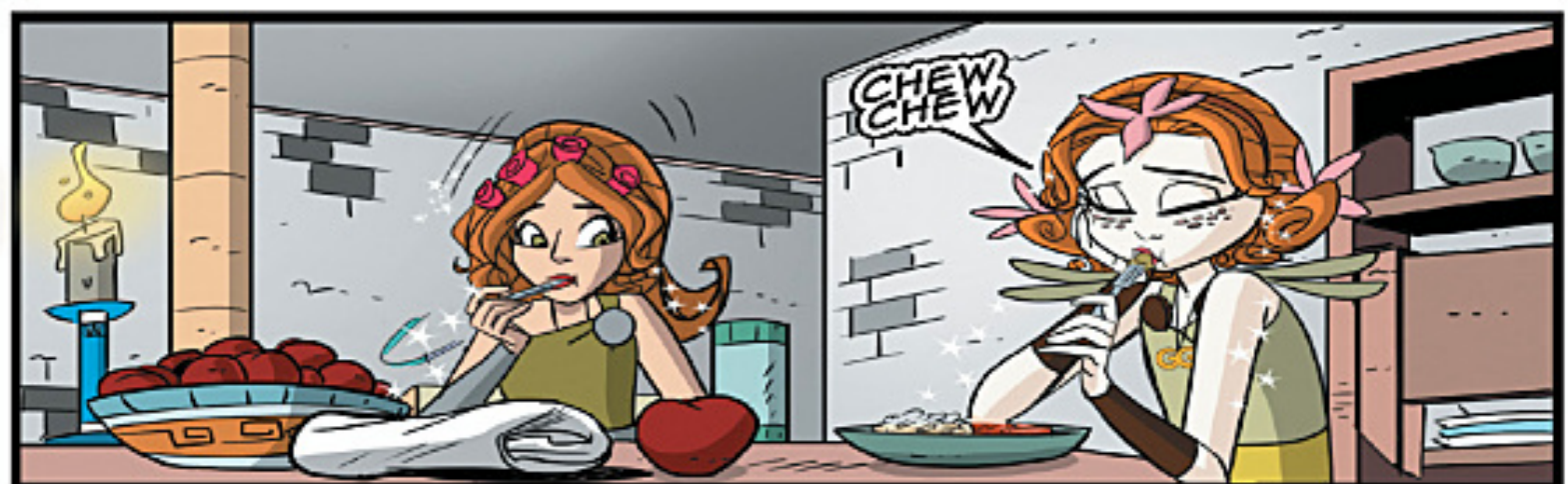
RIGHT.

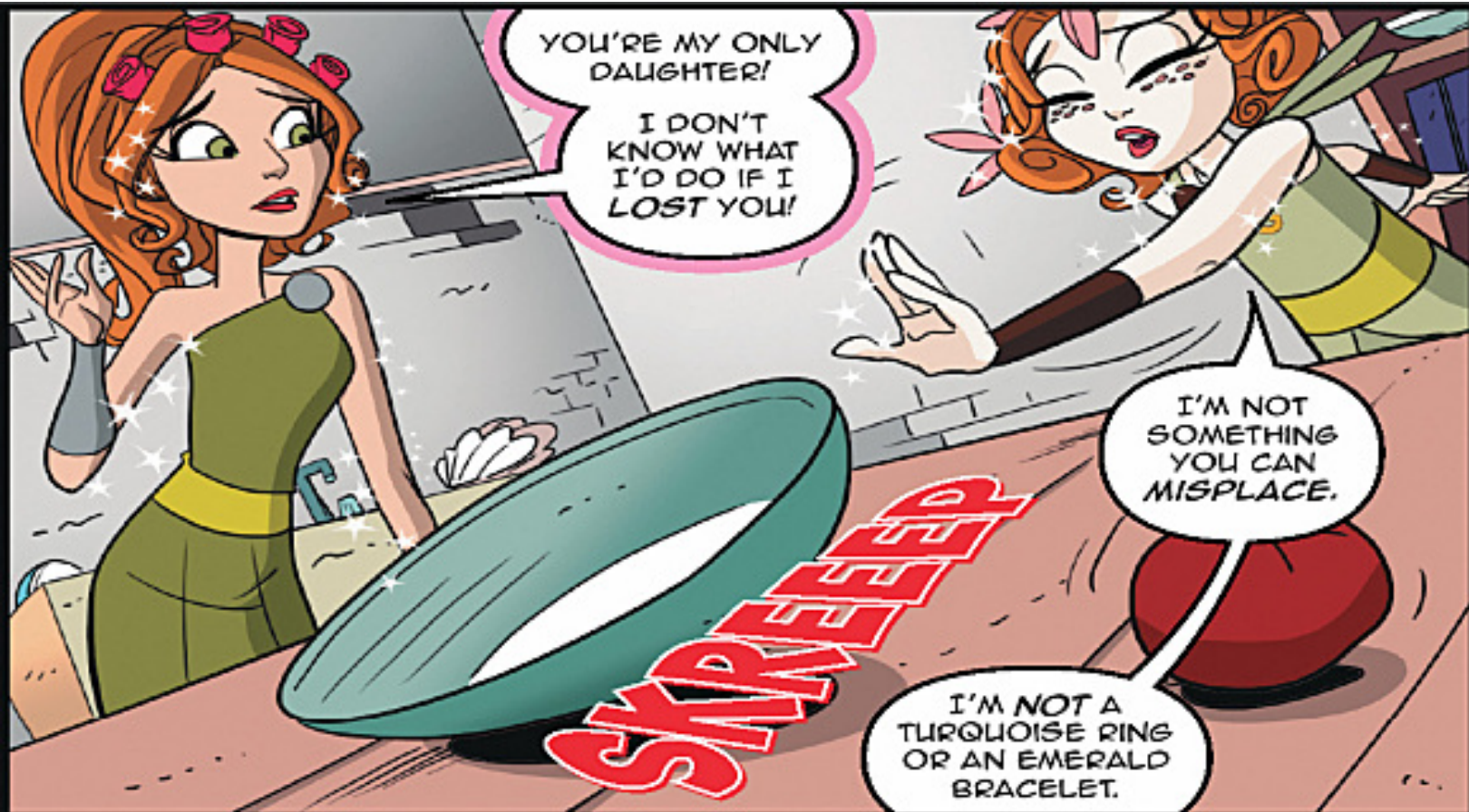
YEAH,
WELL,
THANKS
FOR
NOTHING.

I'M
TELLING THE
GODS' HONEST
TRUTH NOW.

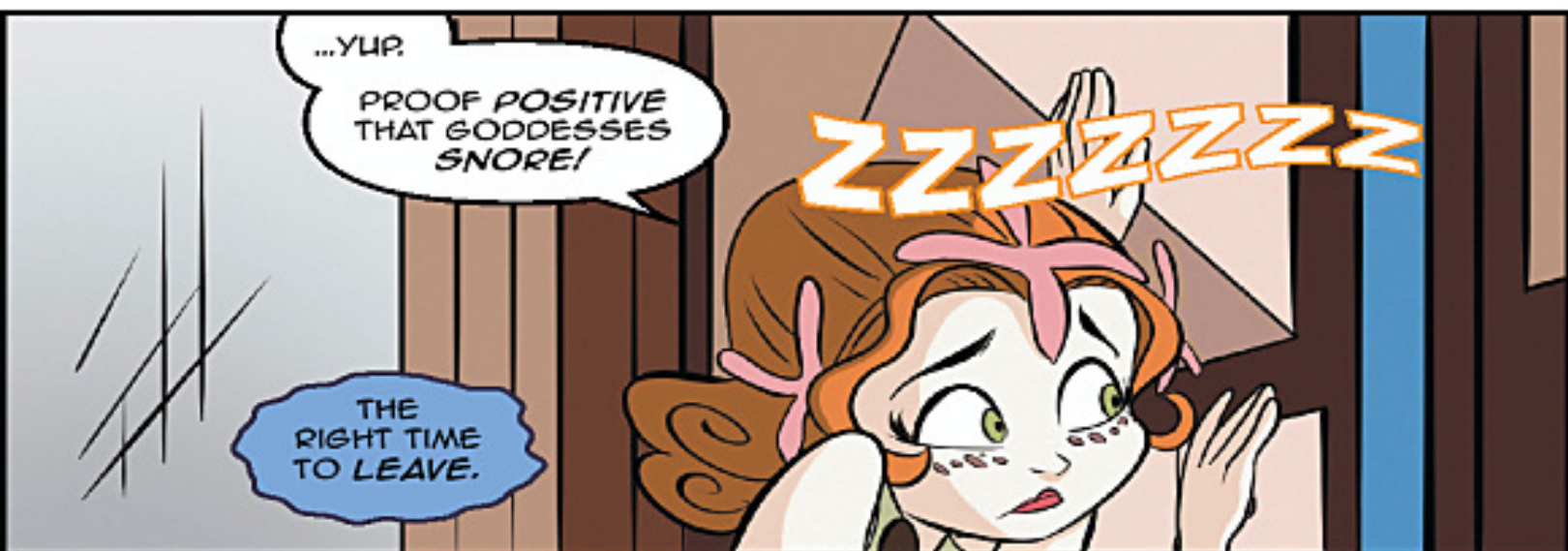
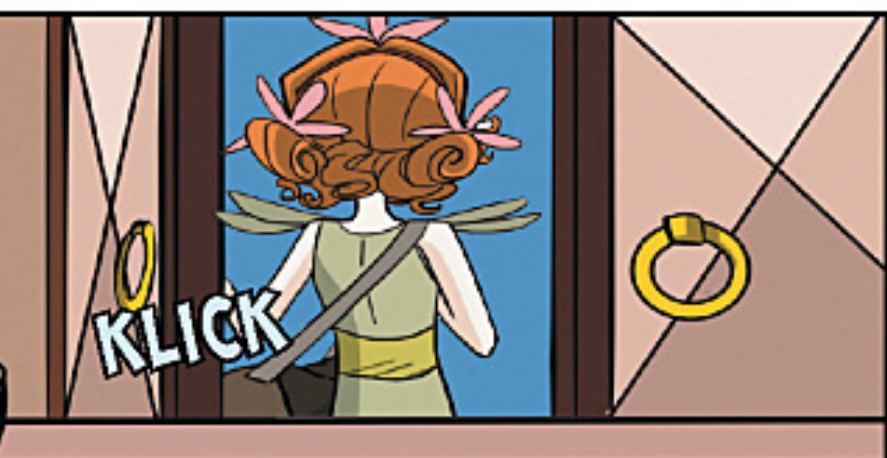
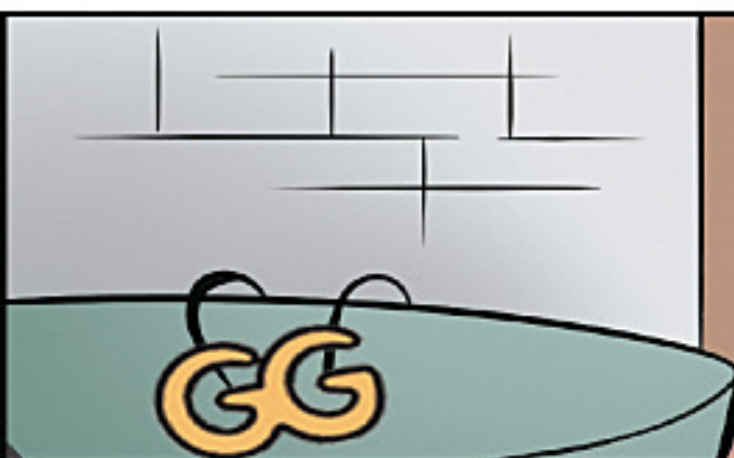


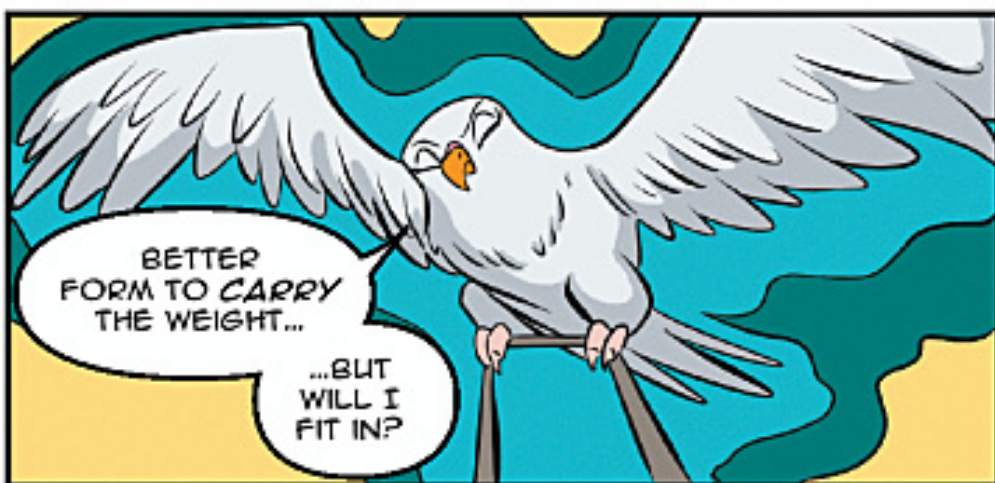
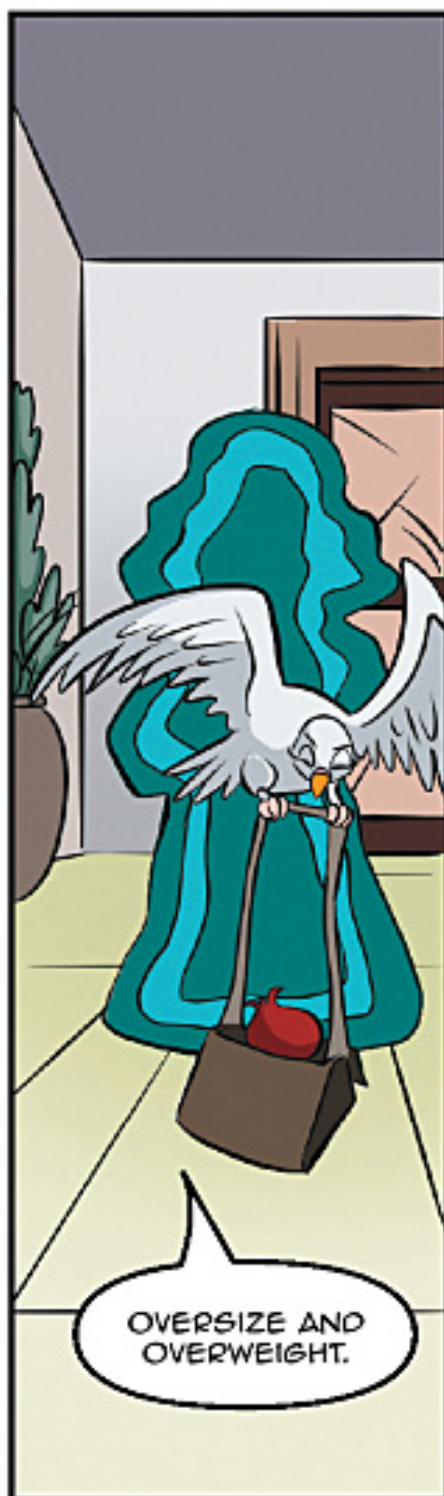














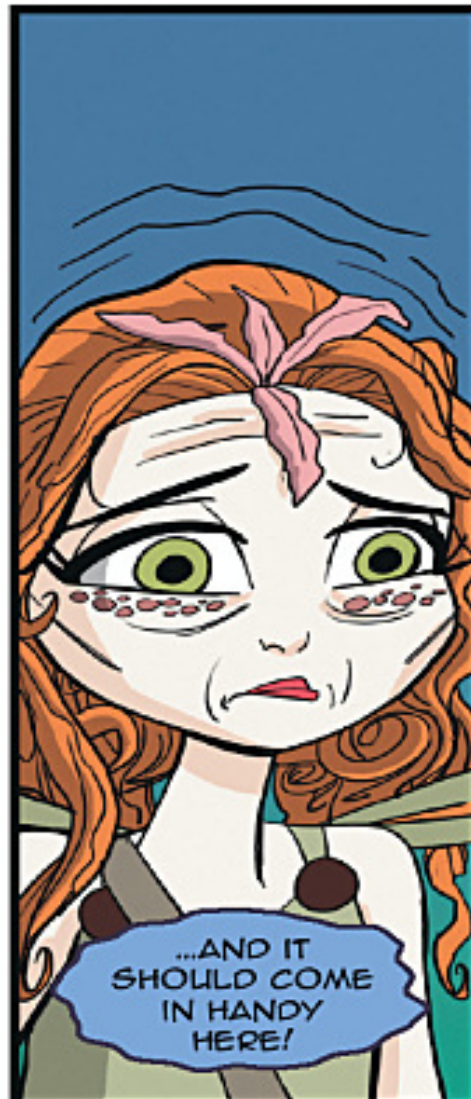
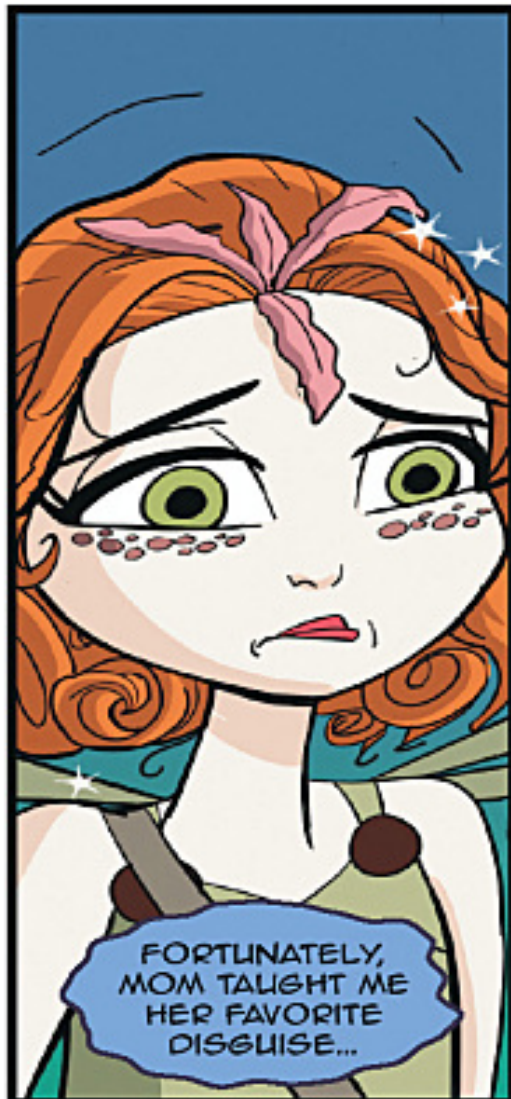


...MY
TRANSFORMATION
SKILLS ARE GOING
TO GET A
WORKOUT!

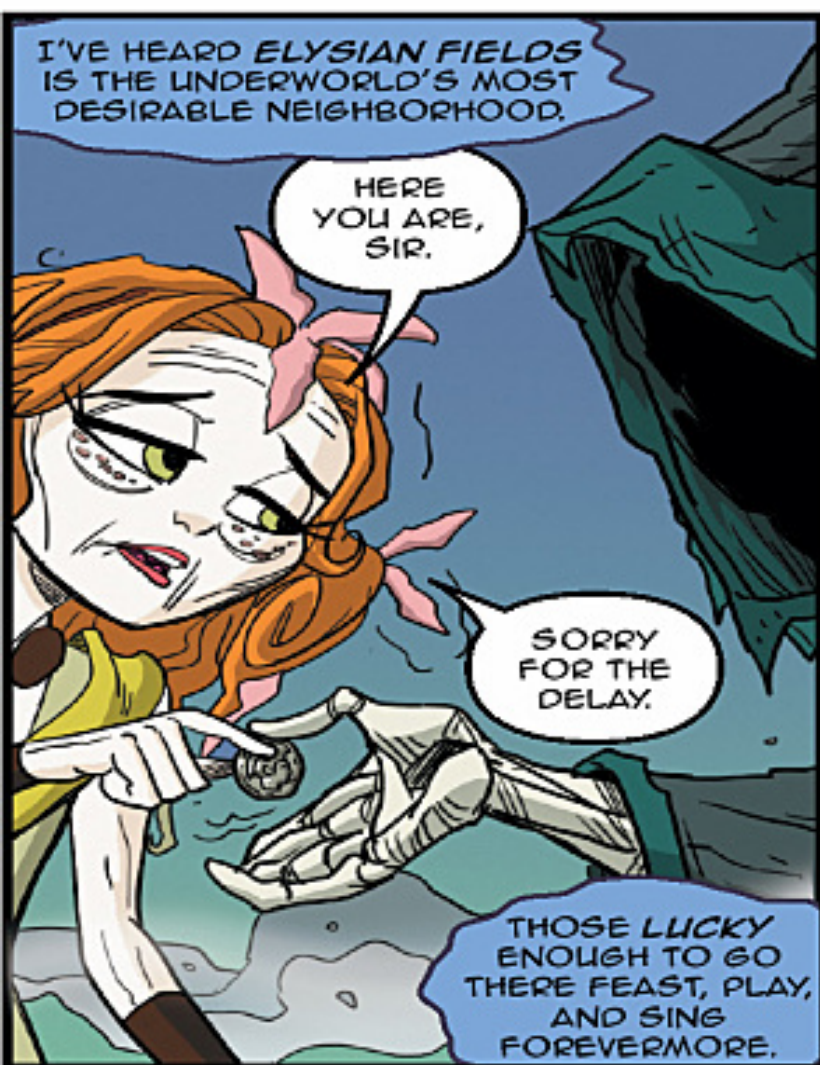
OH MY—!
SO THAT'S
CHARON...

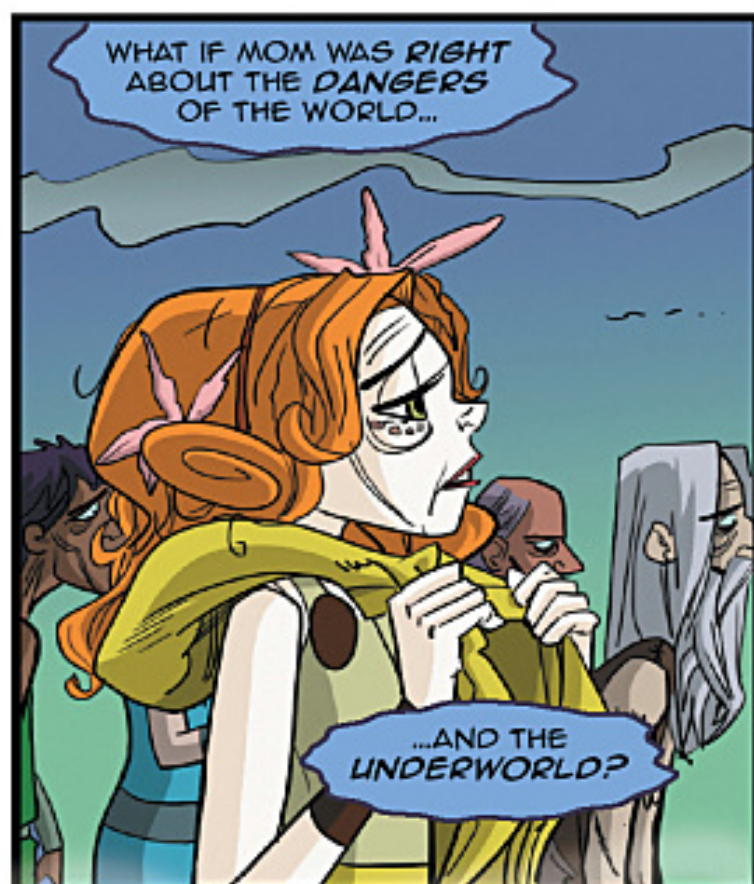
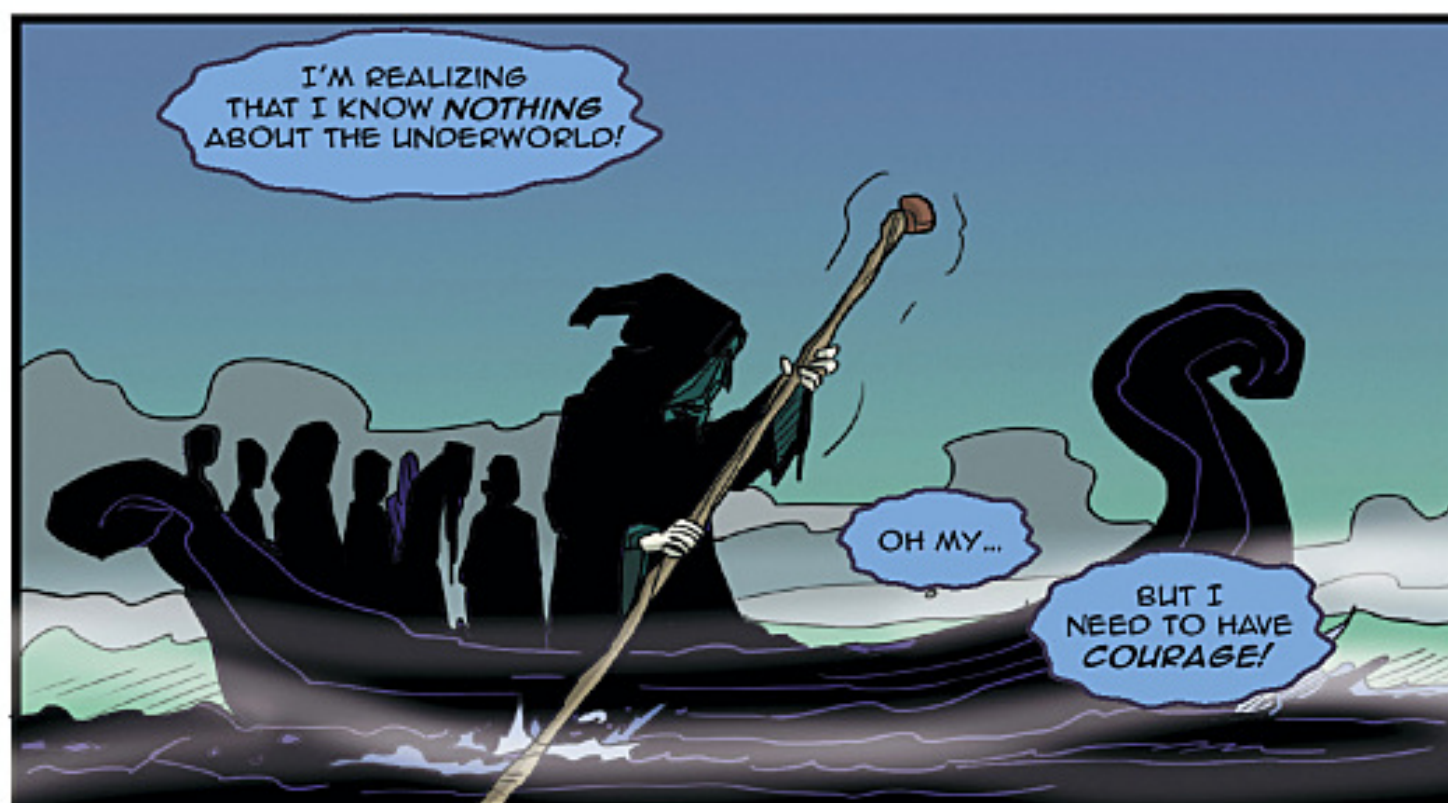
...WITH HUMAN SOULS
BOARDING FOR THEIR TRIP
TO THE *UNDERWORLD*!













ALTHOUGH I CAN
SCARCELY CATCH MY
BREATH...

...I SUDDENLY
REALIZE ALL THE
OTHER PASSENGERS
WILL NEVER BREATHE
AGAIN.



WE'RE
HERE.



EVERYBODY
OFF!

OOOF!

WHAT COULD
POSSIBLY BE THEIR
HURRY NOW?



OMIGODS—
CERBERUS!

I KNOW IT'S
HIS DUTY TO KEEP
SOULS FROM LEAVING
THE UNDERWORLD.

BUT BECAUSE
I KNOW HE'S
HADES'S PET,
CERBERUS DOESN'T
FRIGHTEN ME.

I'M TEMPTED
TO REACH OUT AND
PET HIM...



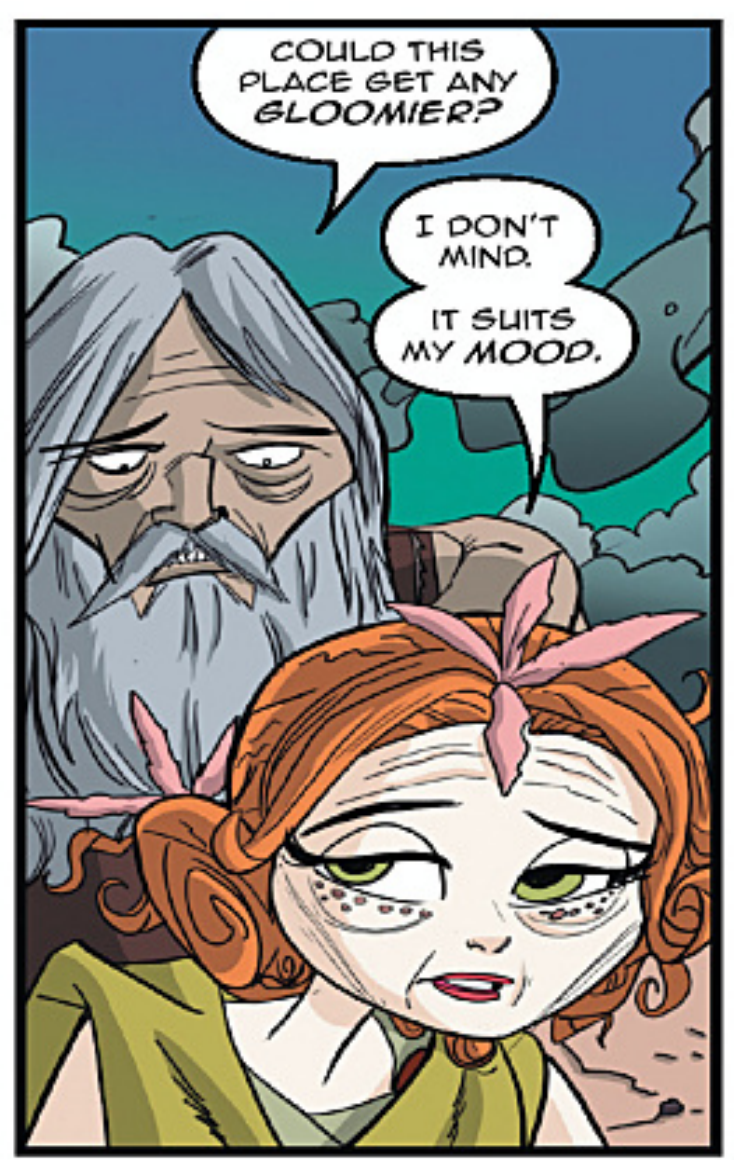
...BUT I WORRY HE
MIGHT SNIFF OUT MY
DISGUISE.



SPLORRCH

SPLITCHH

GLOSSSHH



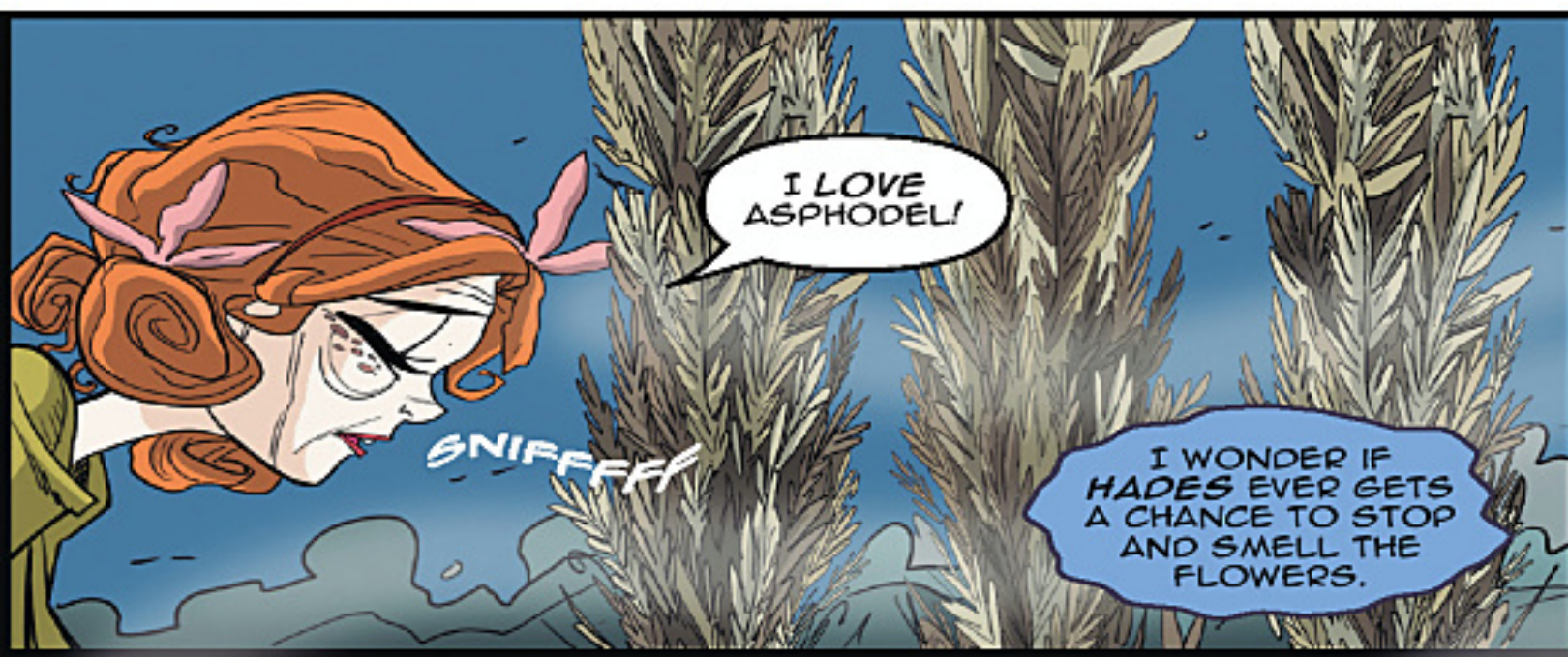
COULD THIS
PLACE GET ANY
GLOOMIER?

I DON'T
MIND.

IT SUITS
MY *MOOD.*



NOW THIS
IS RATHER
NICE...





HADES WON'T BE EASY TO FIND IN SUCH A LARGE PLACE!

IF ONLY—



WHERE ARE YOU GOING, SHADE?

WE'RE JUST ABOUT READY TO START JUDGING.

HELLO. UMMM...



YOU NEED TO LEARN WHERE YOU'LL BE PLACED.

HMMM...DO YOU MIND FIRE?

ACTUALLY, I'M NOT A SHADE AT ALL!

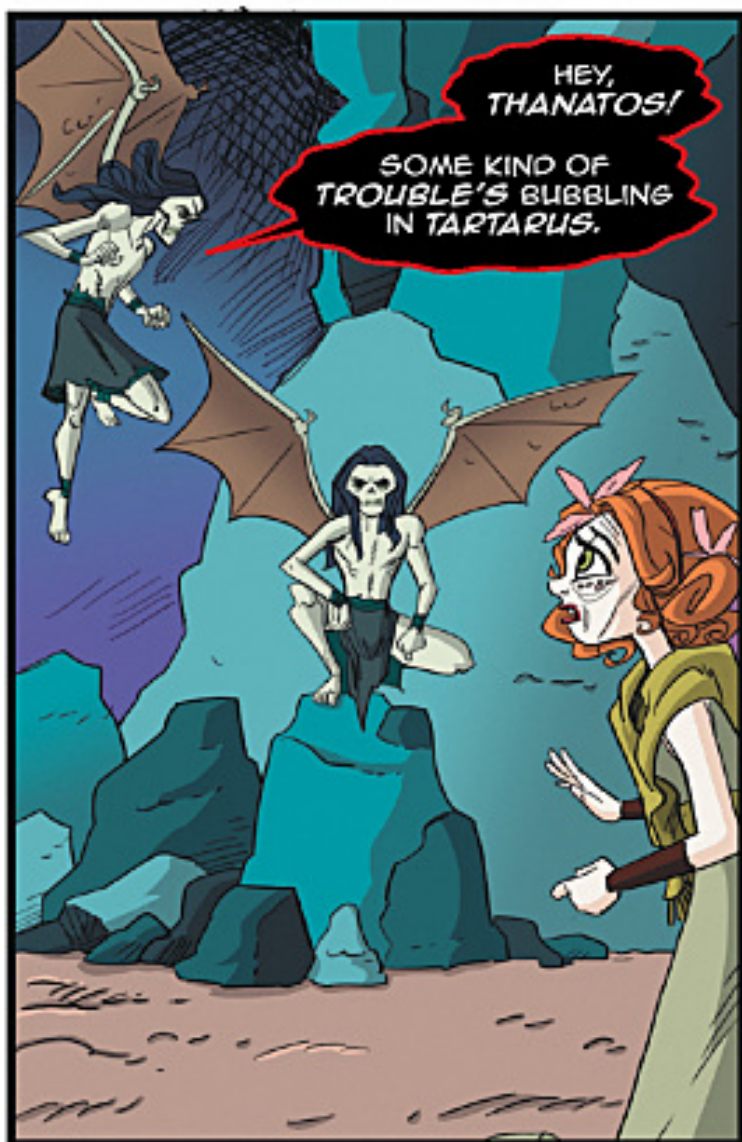
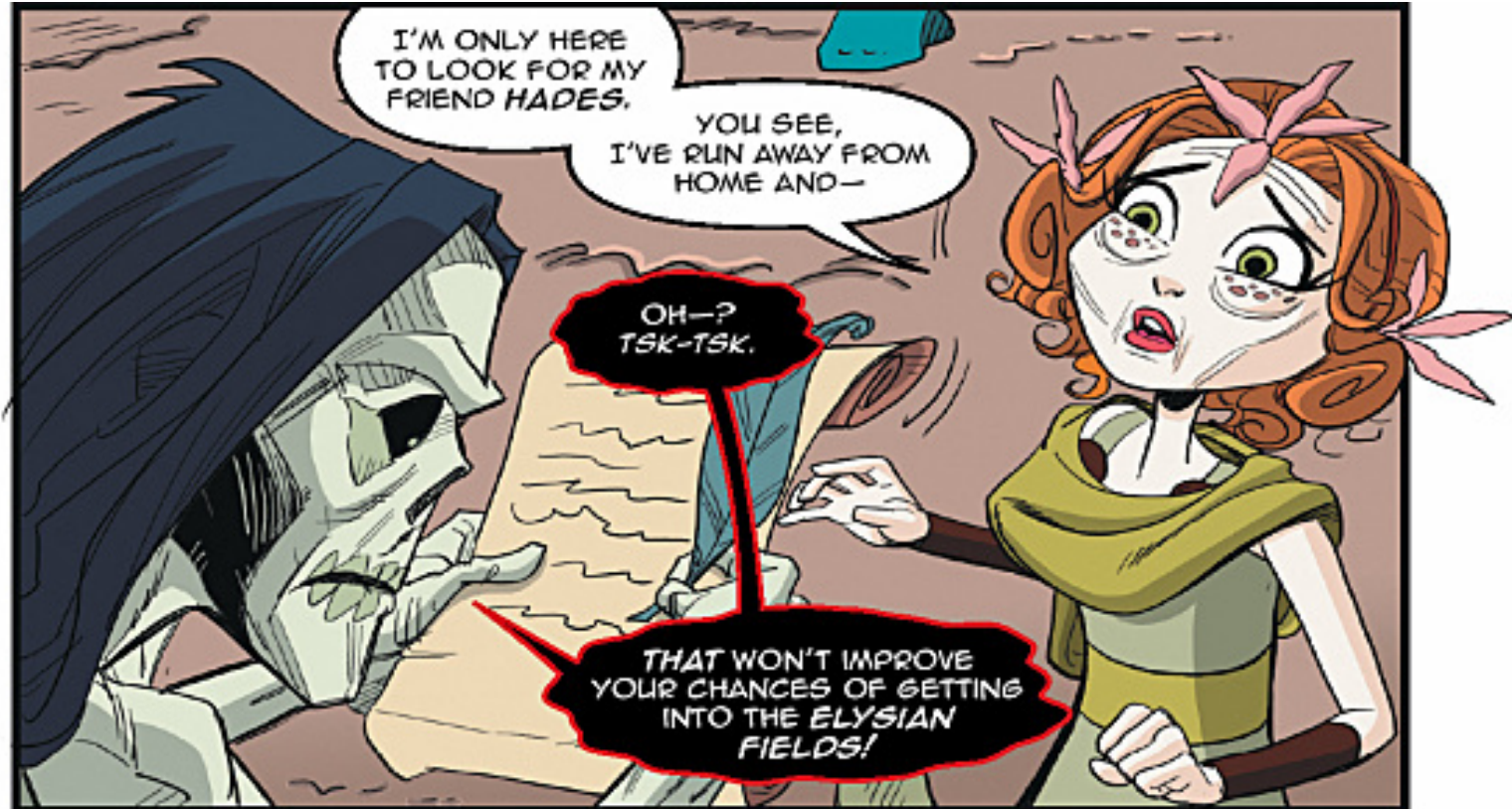
I'M A GODDESS—IN DISGUISE. I—



HA-HA-HA!
IF YOU'RE A GODDESS, I'M A CYCLOPS!

NOW GET BACK IN LINE!

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND—









WHAT DID THESE POOR
HUMANS DO TO DESERVE
SUCH HORRIFYING
PUNISHMENT?

≡GASP≡
THIS IS THEIR
ETERNITY?

AND HADES
HAS TO BE A PART OF
THIS EVERY DAY?



HOW
DOES HE
BEAR IT?



IT'S
TOO MUCH!
TOO HOT!

I NEED
TO REST!



OH! I HADN'T
REALIZED I HADN'T
CHANGED BACK...



...NO WONDER I'M
FEELING SO WORN
OUT SO QUICKLY.

I MEAN...



...I'M A
GODDESS!

NOW, HADES—
WHERE ARE YOU?





THE DEEPER I GO,
THE DARKER THE AIR
BECOMES.

THE WAILING
OF EACH SHADE IS MORE
HEARTRENDING THAN
THE LAST...

I WAS
FRAMED!

I TOOK FOOD AND
MONEY, BUT I NEEDED
IT MORE THAN THOSE
ORPHANS!

I DON'T KNOW
HOW THE KNIFE SLIPPED
FROM MY HANDS INTO
HIS BACK. IT WAS AN
ACCIDENT!



CAN ANY OF
YOU TELL ME WHERE
TO FIND **HADES**?

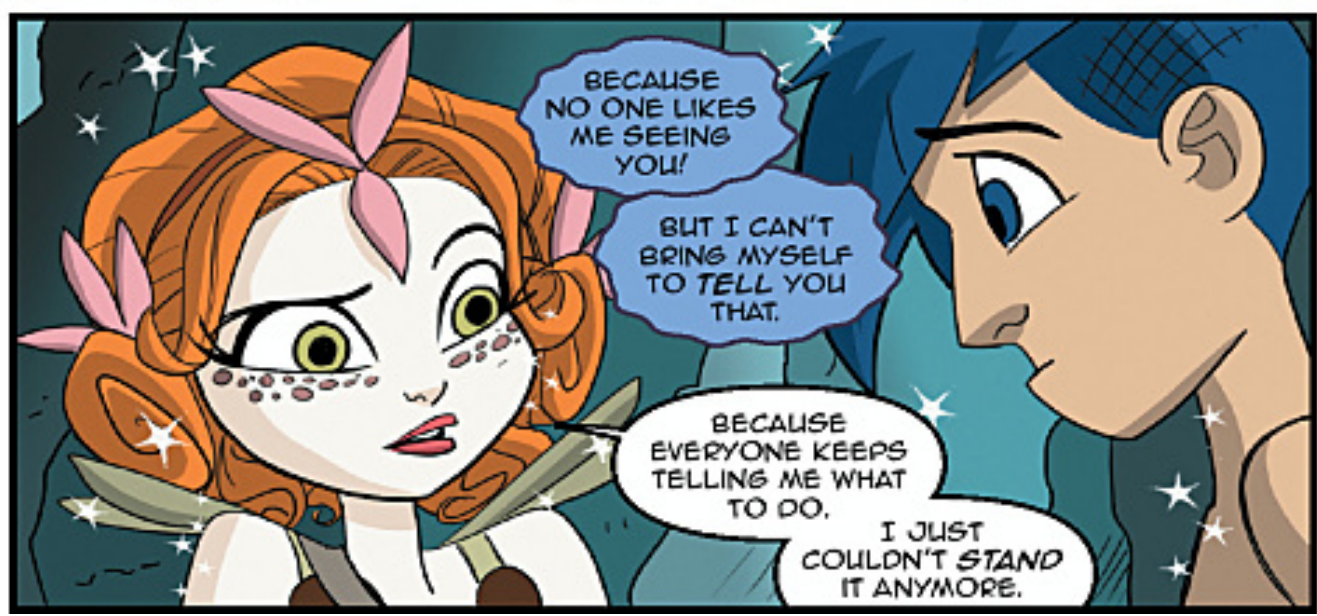
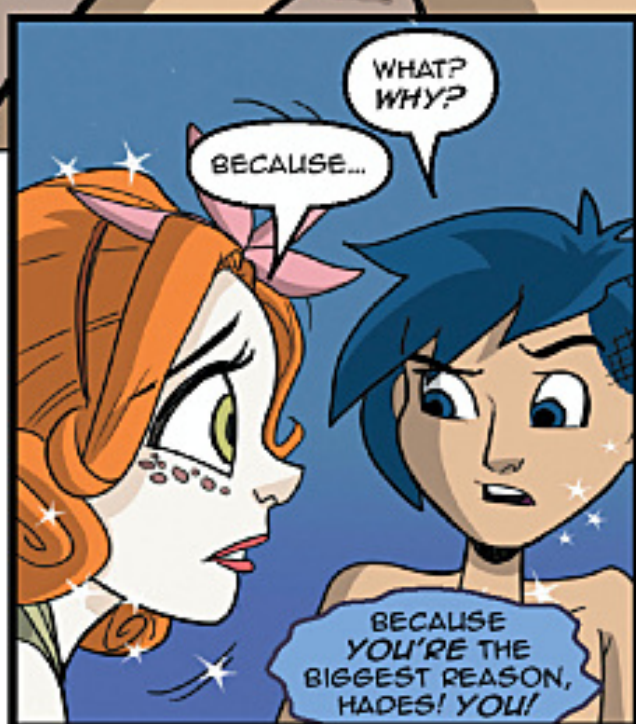
PUT IN A GOOD
WORD FOR ME, AND I'LL
TELL YOU WHERE TO
FIND HIM!

I'LL HELP YOU
FIND **HADES**, IF YOU
SET ME FREE!

THEY **LIE**!
THEY HAVE NO IDEA
WHERE **HADES** IS. BUT
HE AND I ARE
OLD **PALS**...

THEN I
REALIZE THEY
ARE **ALL**
LYING.

EACH AND EVERY
ONE OF THESE PATHETIC
SOULS IS A **PHONY**...



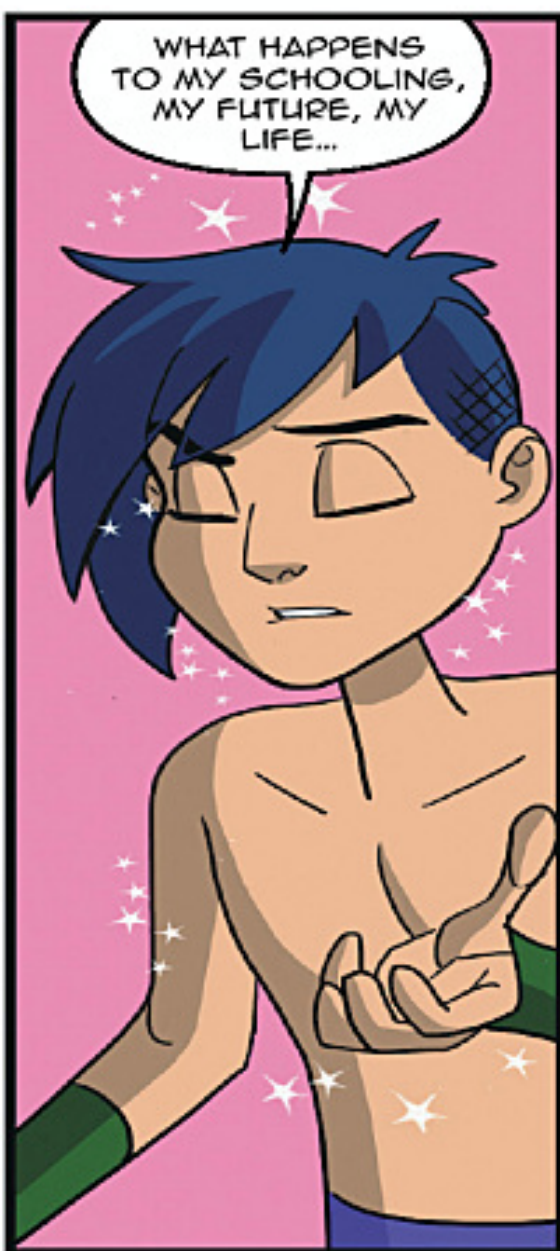
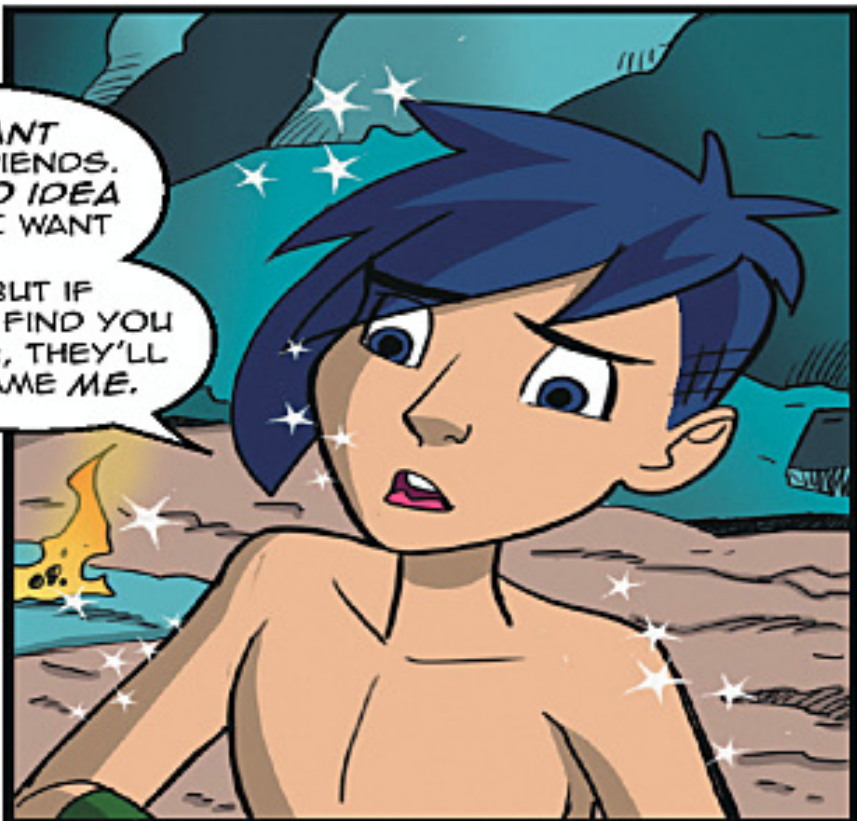






AND I WANT
US TO BE FRIENDS.
YOU HAVE NO IDEA
HOW MUCH I WANT
THAT!

BUT IF
THEY FIND YOU
HERE, THEY'LL
BLAME ME.





NO.

NOT A
BIT.

WELL,
MAYBE A
LITTLE.

I THOUGHT AS
MUCH, GODDESS.

WHOOOOOSH



I GUESS I CAN
GRAB A RIDE BACK.
BUT THAT DOESN'T
MEAN I'M READY TO
FORGIVE HIM JUST
YET!

YOU CAN
LEAVE ME
HERE.

I CAN
WALK THE
REST OF THE
WAY.

CAREFUL.

I'M
FINE.



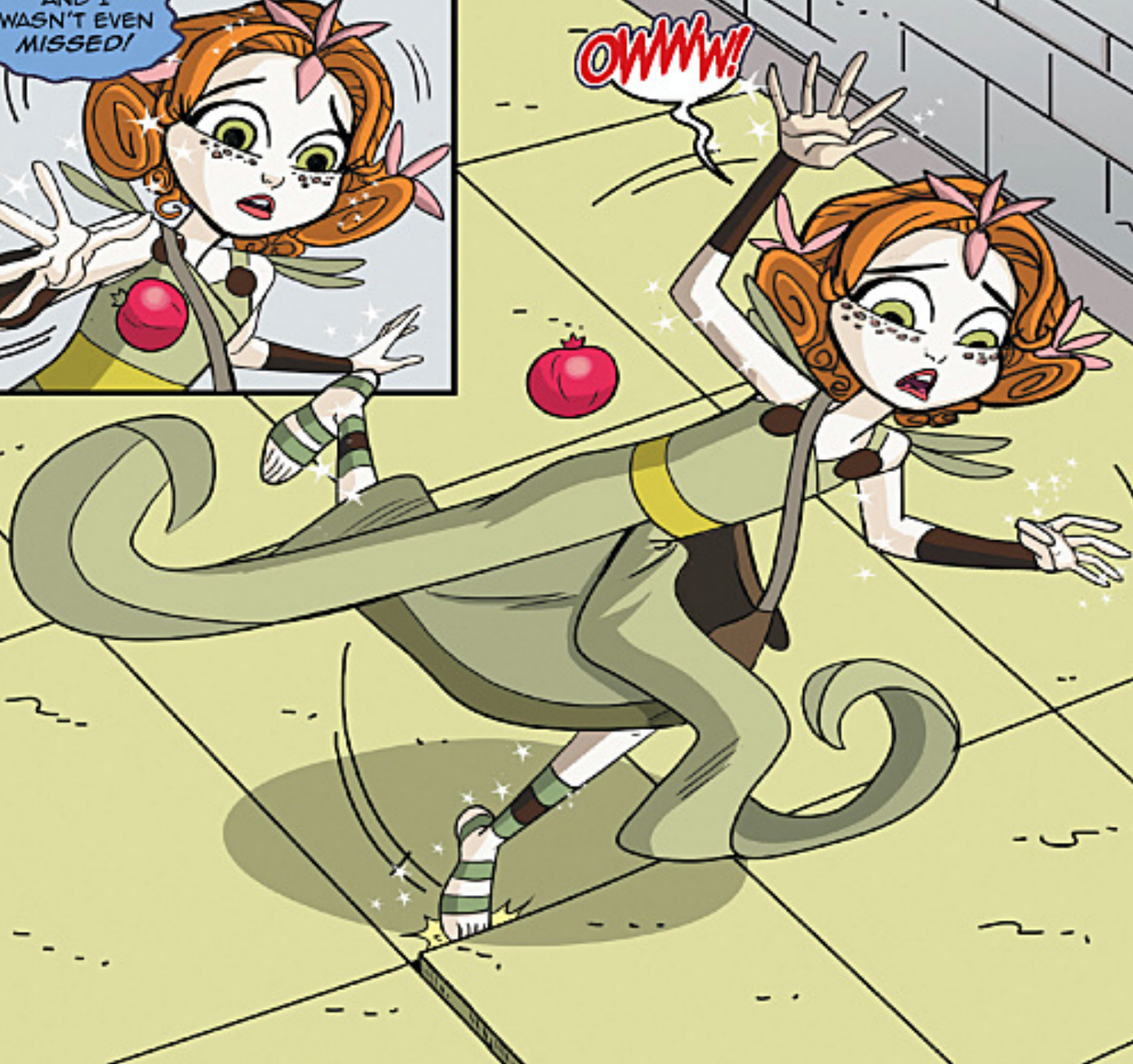
CHAPTER 9: HOME AGAIN

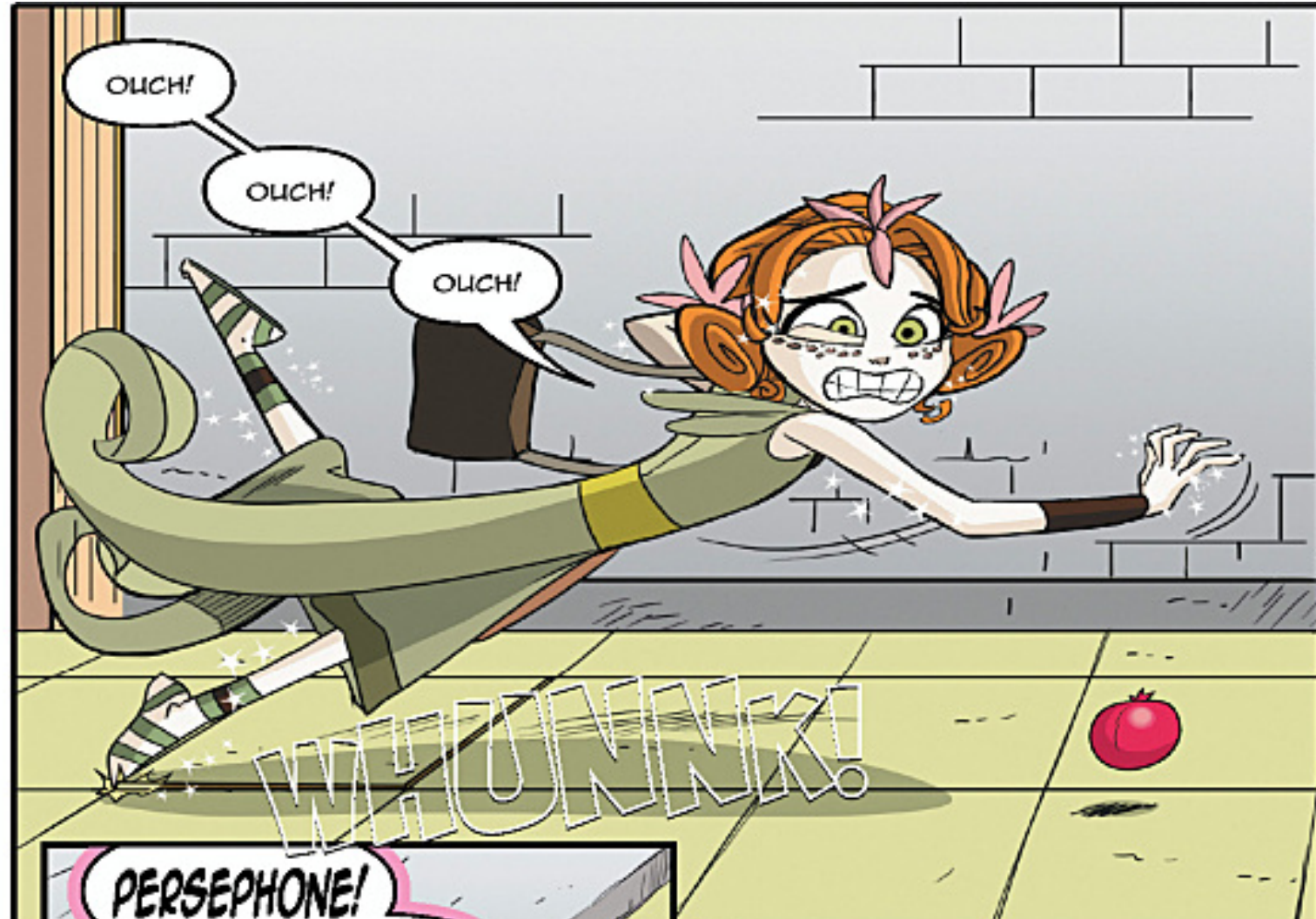
SOME NIGHT.

I RAN AWAY FROM HOME,
WENT TO THE LAND OF THE
DEAD, GOT BANISHED...

...AND AM
RIGHT BACK WHERE
I STARTED.

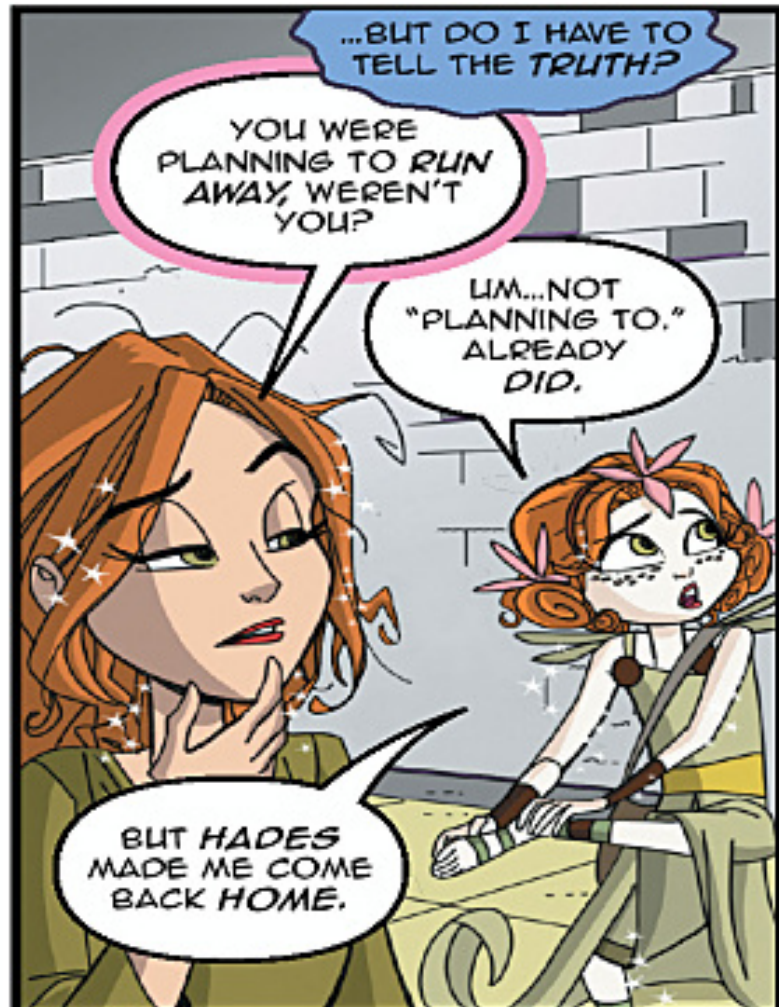


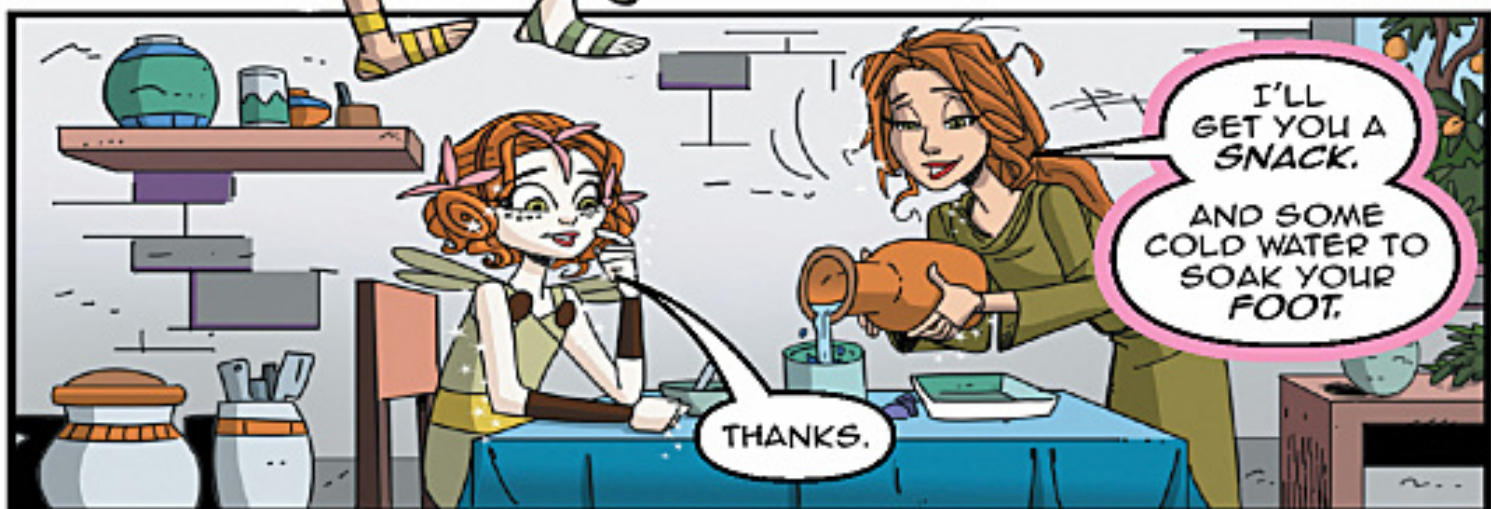
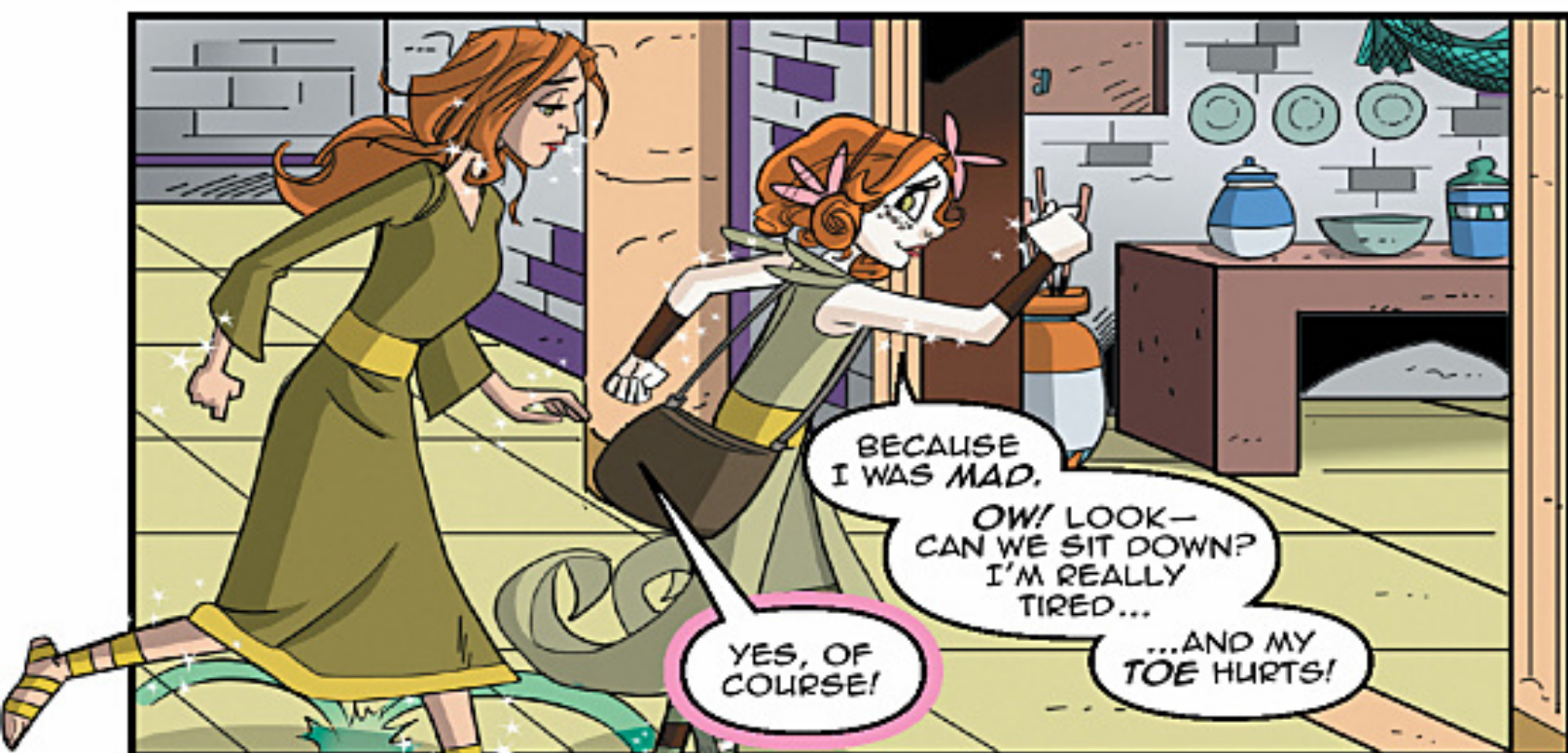
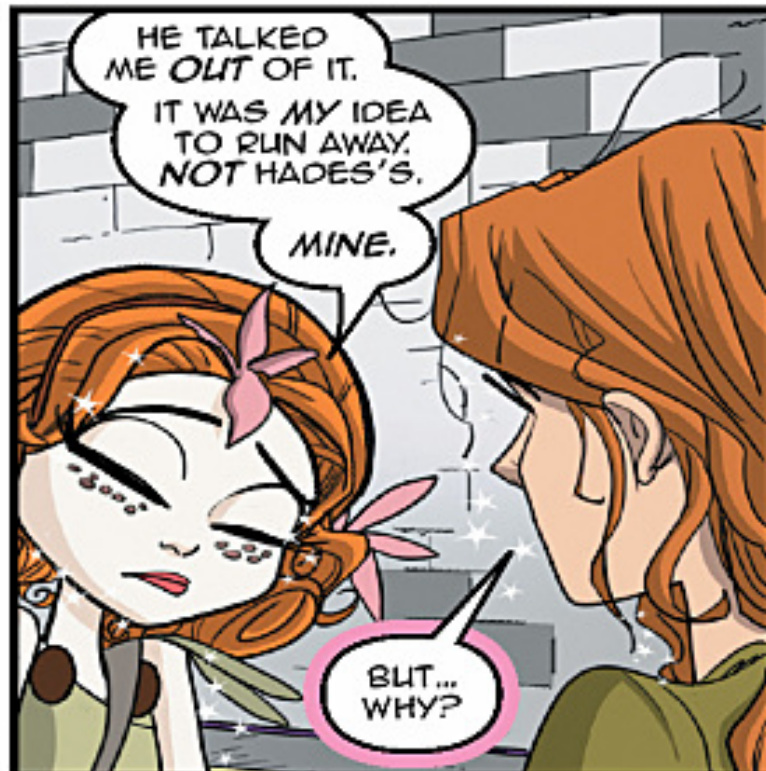




ARE YOU
OKAY? COULDN'T
YOU SLEEP?







BREADSTYX AND NECTAR? MOM USED TO MAKE THIS FOR ME WHENEVER I'D WAKE UP FROM A NIGHTMARE.

SO TELL ME, WHY DID YOU RUN AWAY?

AM I SUCH A TERRIBLE MOTHER?

NO, OF COURSE NOT.

I TOLD YOU: I WAS JUST MAD.

I KNOW YOU THINK I'M A "CHARIOT MOM." I'LL ACCEPT THAT DESCRIPTION ANY DAY.

I HAVE MORE EXPERIENCE OF THE WORLD THAN YOU. I KNOW WHAT CAN HAPPEN.

IT'S MY DUTY TO PROTECT YOU, EVEN WHEN YOU THINK YOU DON'T NEED PROTECTING.

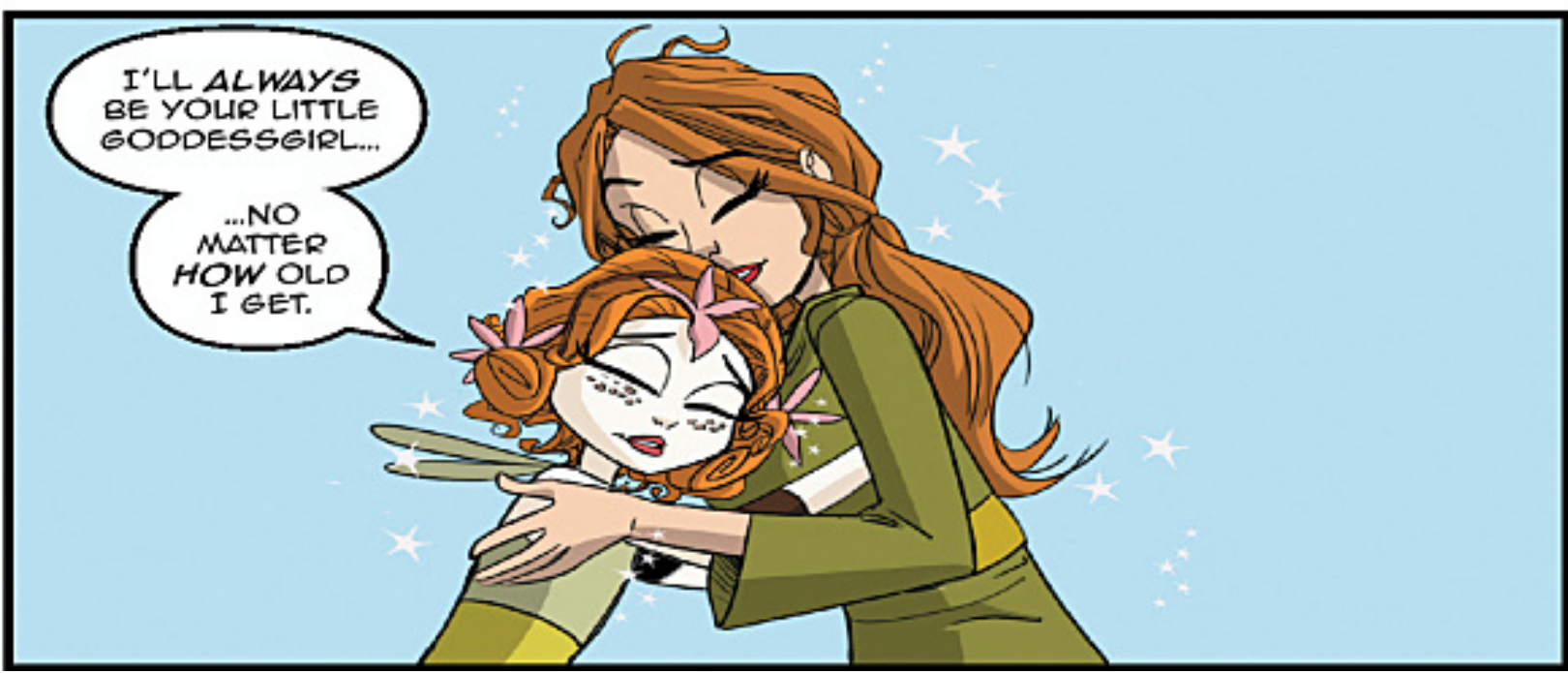
BUT I'M ALMOST THIRTEEN YEARS OLD—AND IMMORTAL!

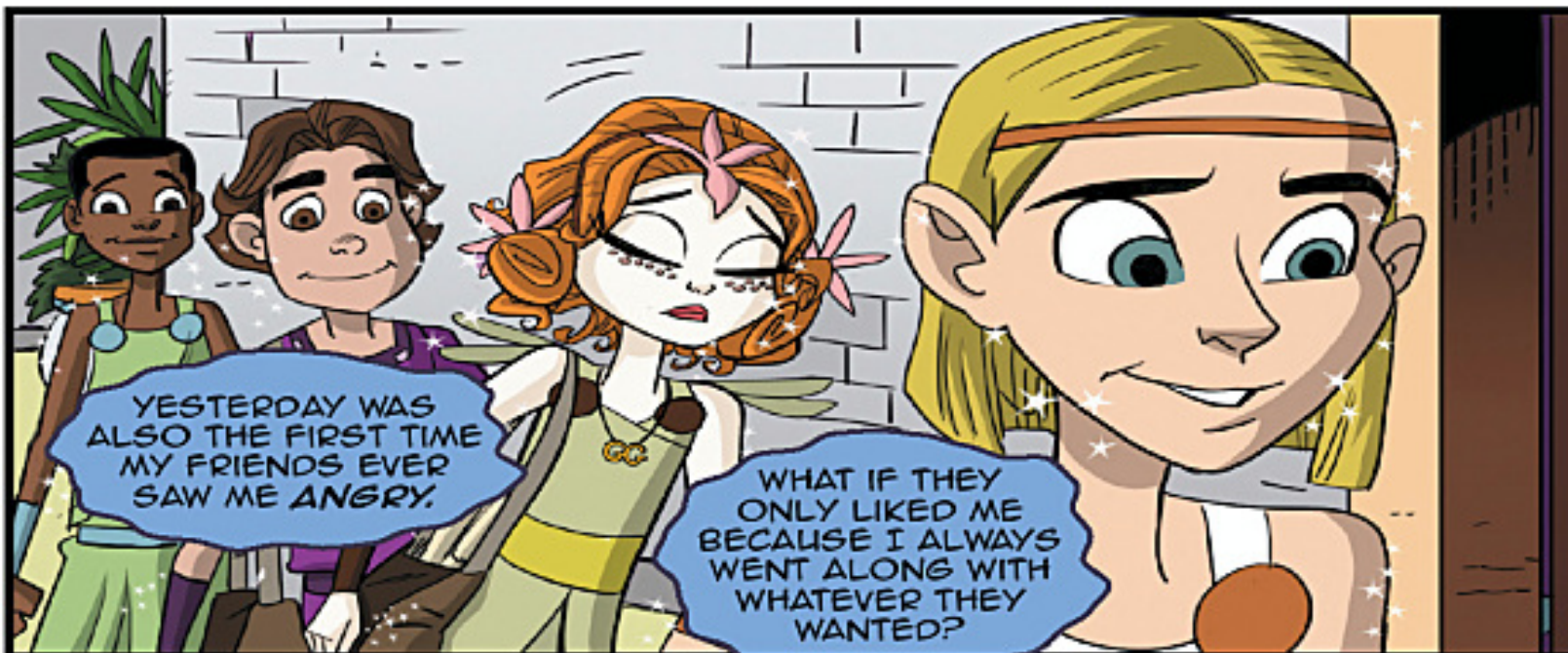
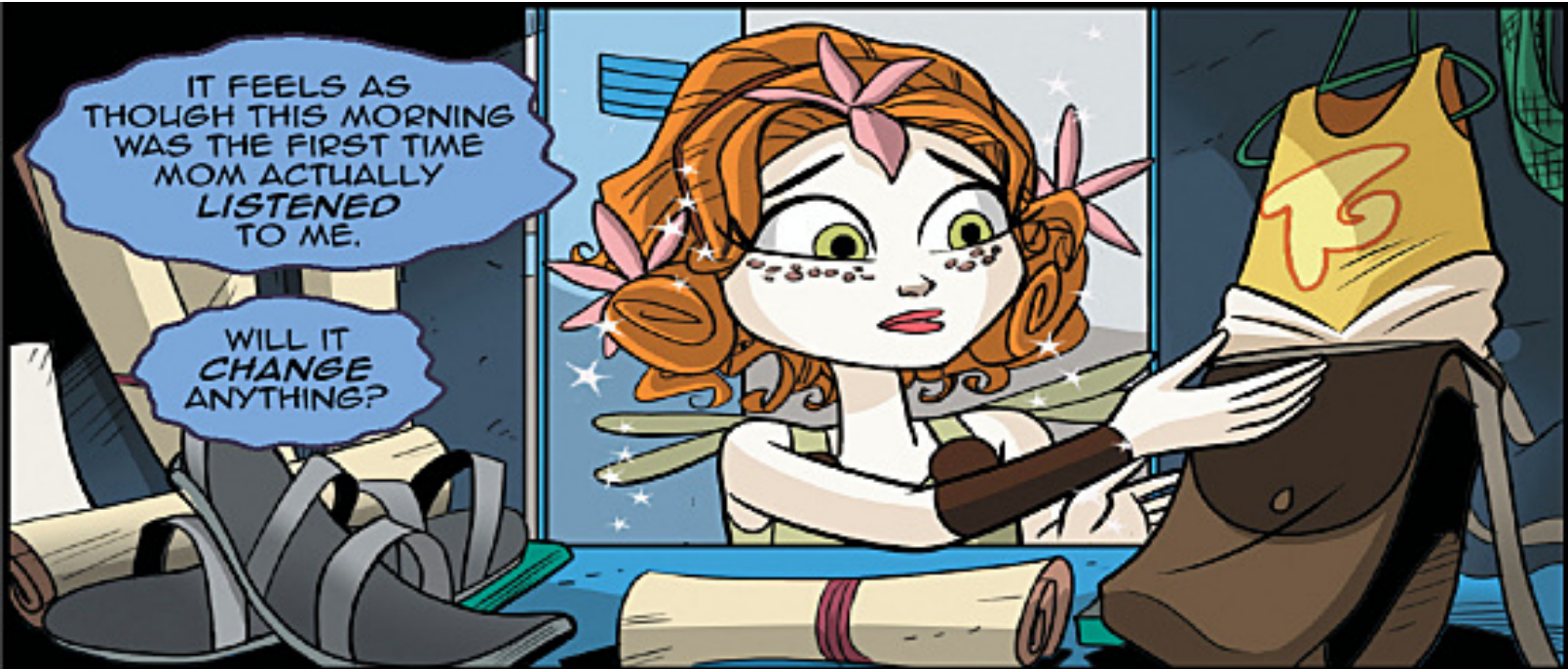
I CAN LOOK AFTER MYSELF!

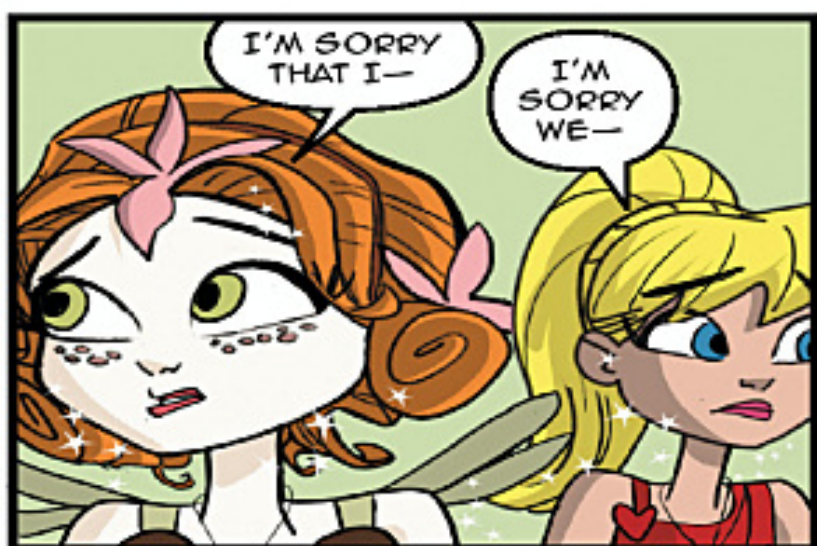
YOU THINK YOU CAN.

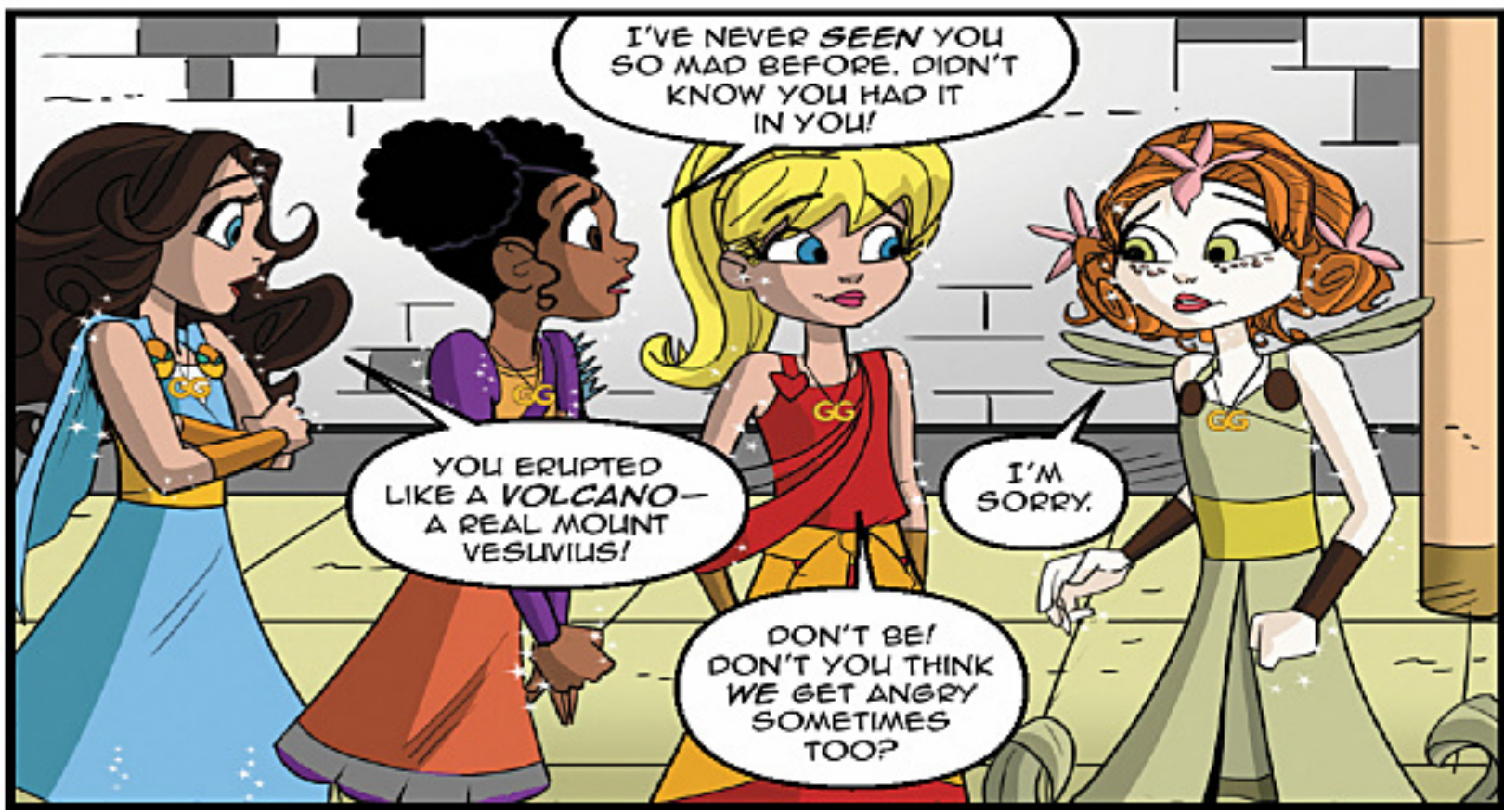
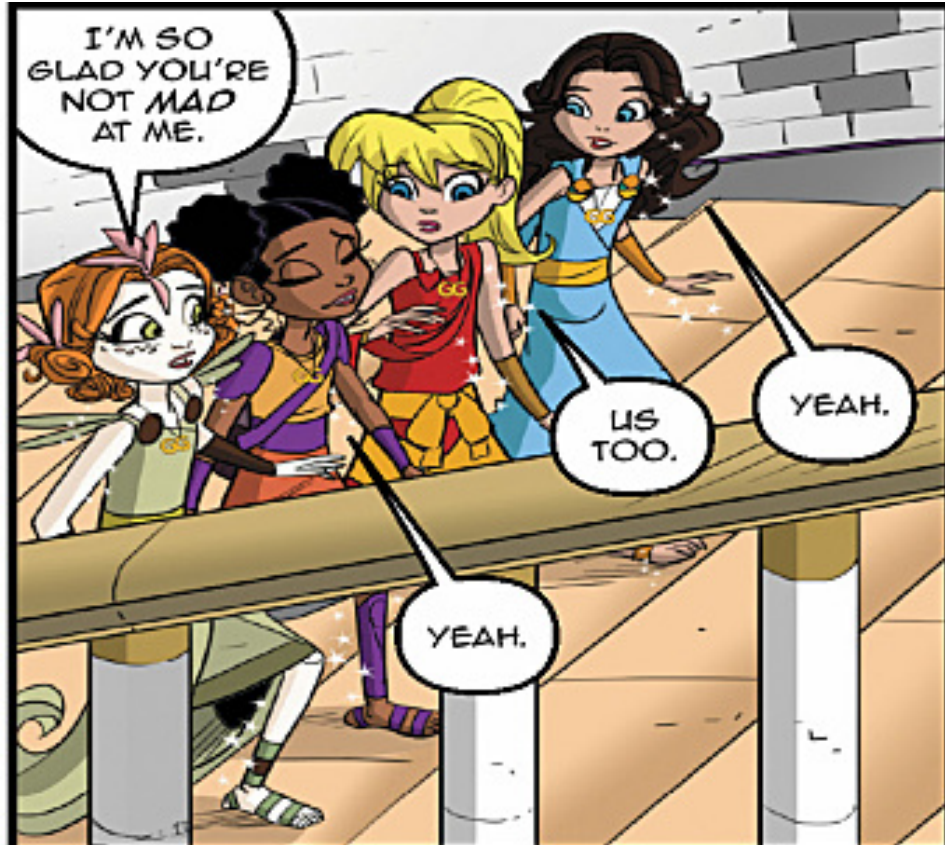
BUT SOMETIMES YOU DON'T USE THE BEST JUDGMENT.













FROM NOW
ON, I PROMISE
NOT TO KEEP MY
REAL FEELINGS A
SECRET.

SO WATCH
OUT!

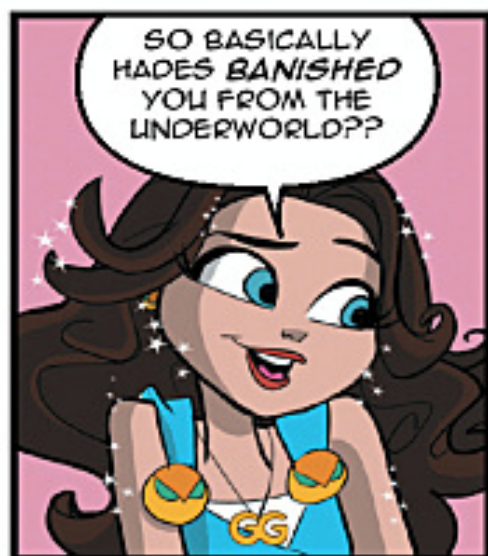
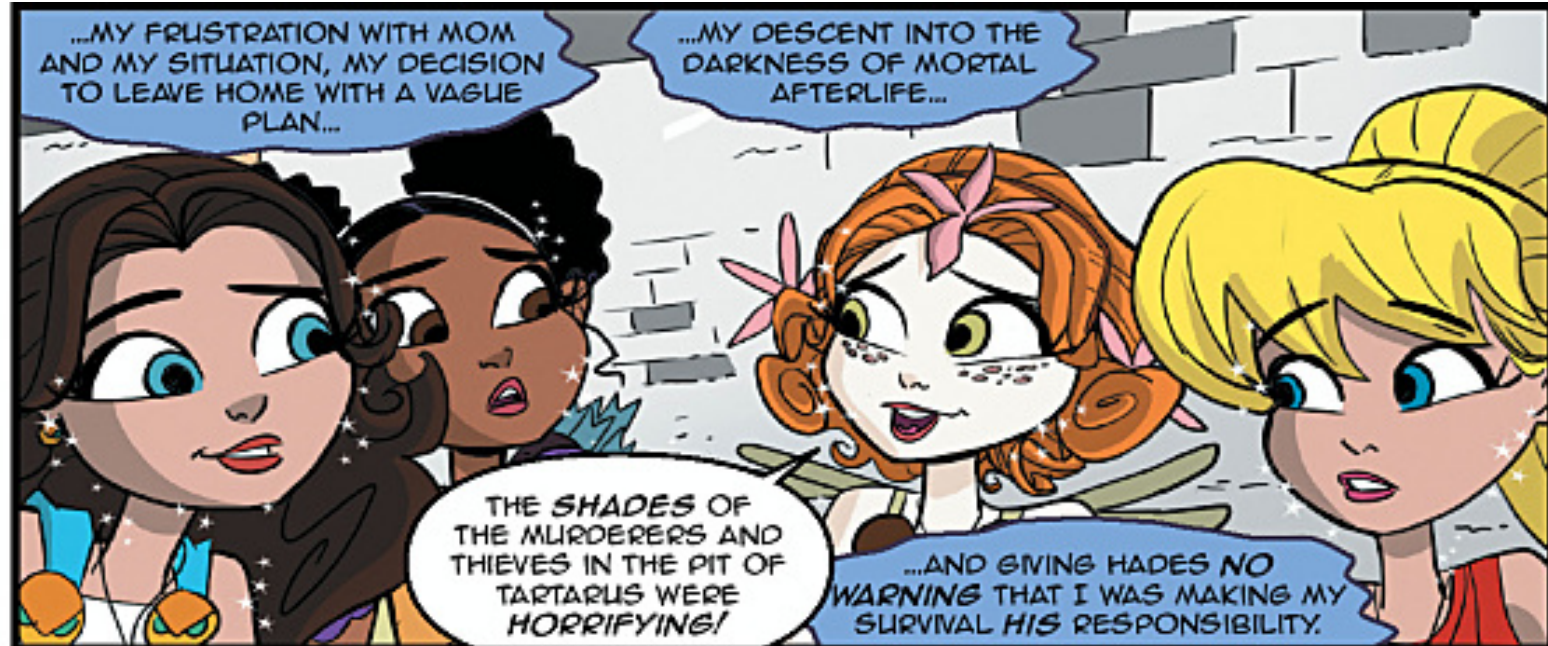
IN THE SPIRIT OF NO
SECRETS, I NEED
TO TELL YOU...

...I RAN AWAY FROM
HOME LAST NIGHT
AND VISITED THE
UNDERWORLD.

YE
GODS!

WHAT?

WEREN'T YOU
SCARED?



DID YOU KNOW HADES IS FRIENDS WITH ZEUS, AND THEY EAT LUNCH TOGETHER MOST DAYS? HE EVEN DOES HIS HOMEWORK THERE.

IT HELPS HIM AVOID FIGHTS ARE AND OTHERS TRY TO START WITH HIM. THAT'S WHY HE SNEAKS AROUND, TO AVOID THEM.

TYPICAL OF PHEME TO JUMP TO CONCLUSIONS.

BUT WE SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SO QUICK TO BELIEVE HER.

TRUE, BUT IT DOESN'T EXACTLY HELP THAT HADES IS SO MOODY AND SOUR ALL THE TIME.

MAYBE WE WOULD BE TOO, IF WE HAD THE WEIGHT OF MILLIONS OF AWFUL, EVIL SOULS PULLING US DOWN.

PING!
PING!
PING!

THE TWENTY-SIXTH DAY OF SCHOOL IS ABOUT TO BEGIN!

LATER THAT DAY...

LUNCHTIME ALREADY!
I RUSHED THROUGH THE
CAFETERIA SO FAST I BARELY
WAVED TO MY FRIENDS.

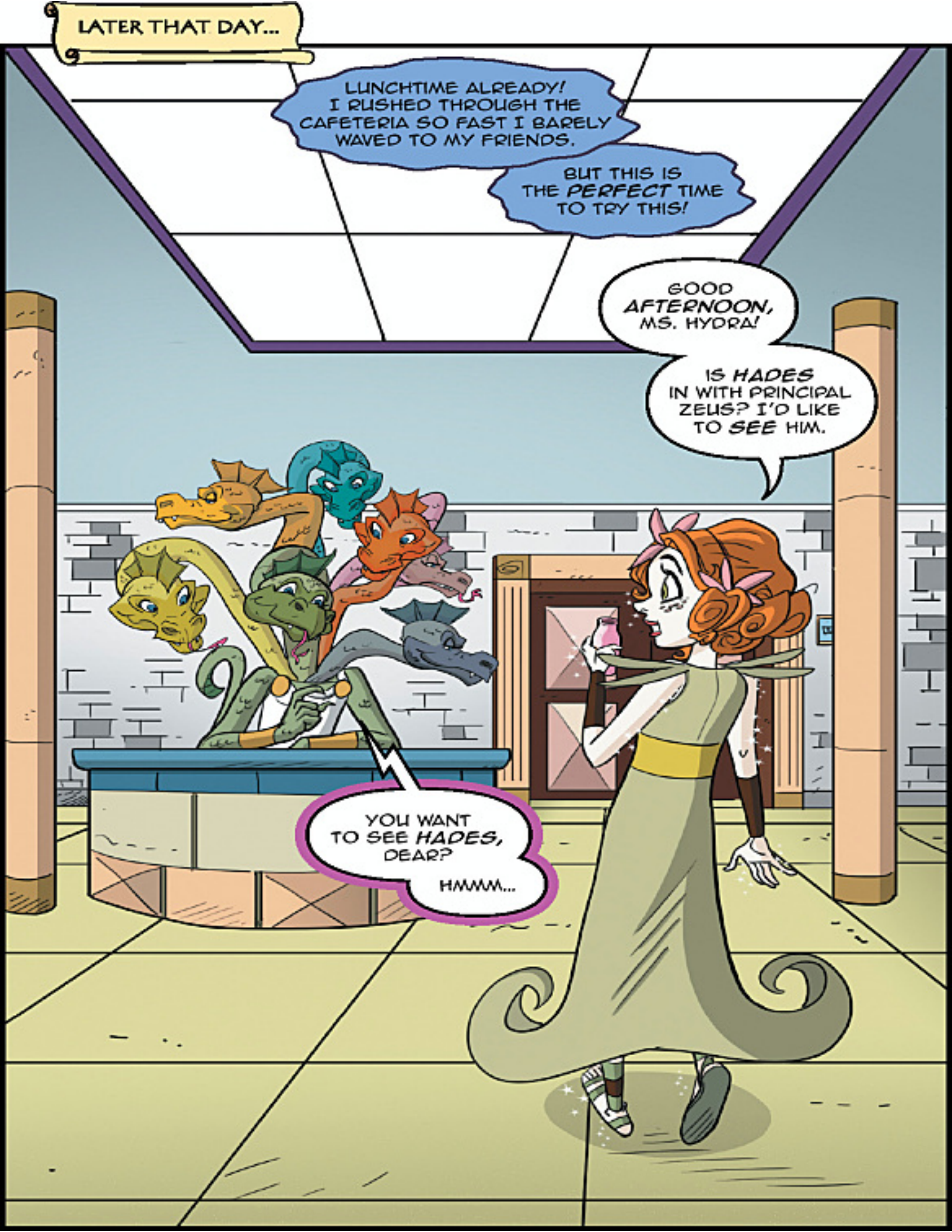
BUT THIS IS
THE *PERFECT* TIME
TO TRY THIS!

GOOD
AFTERNOON,
MS. HYDRA!

IS *HADES*
IN WITH PRINCIPAL
ZEUS? I'D LIKE
TO *SEE* HIM.

YOU WANT
TO SEE *HADES*,
DEAR?

HMMM...





CHAPTER 10:
OFFICE OF THE
PRINCIPAL

PERSEPHONE?

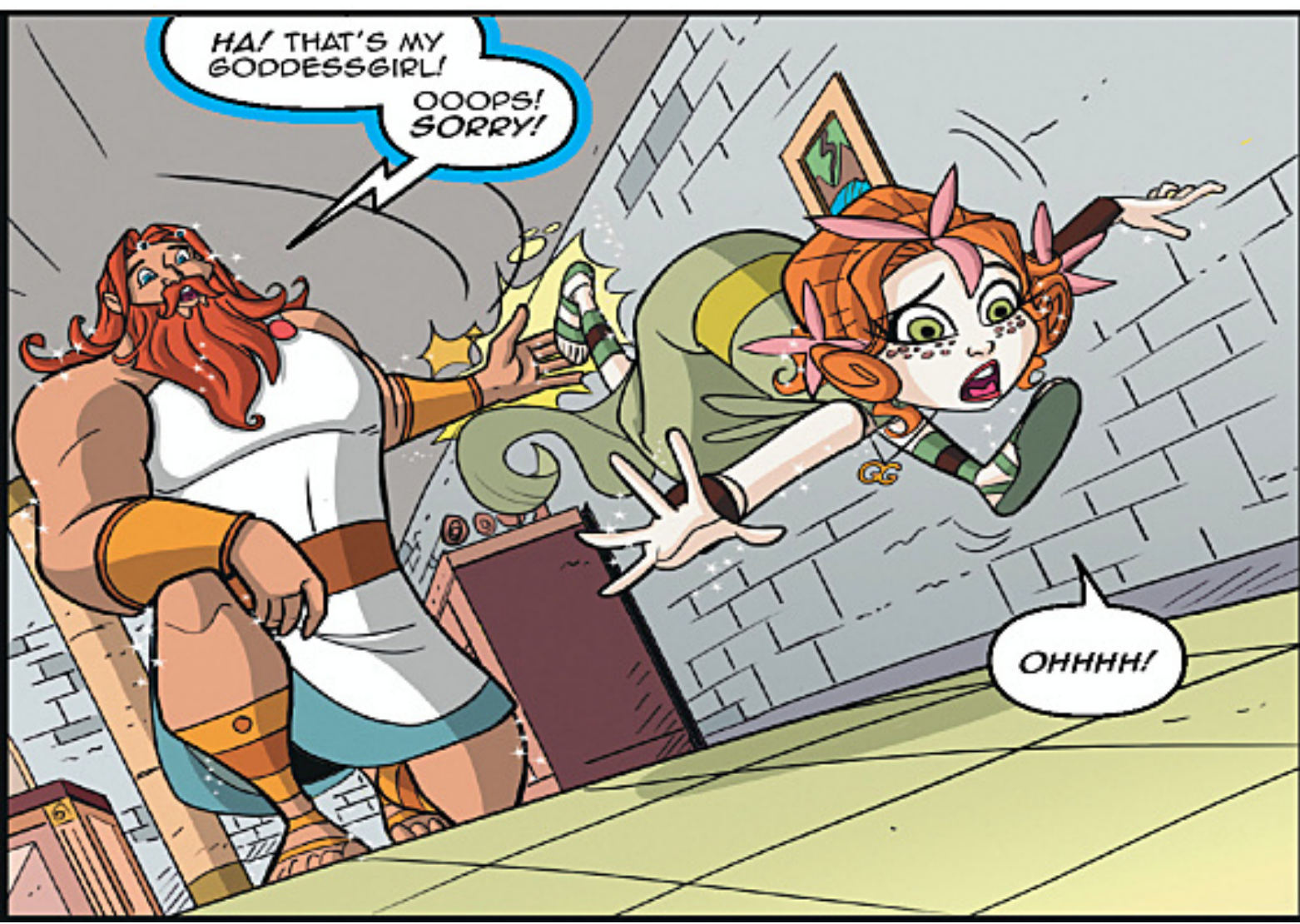
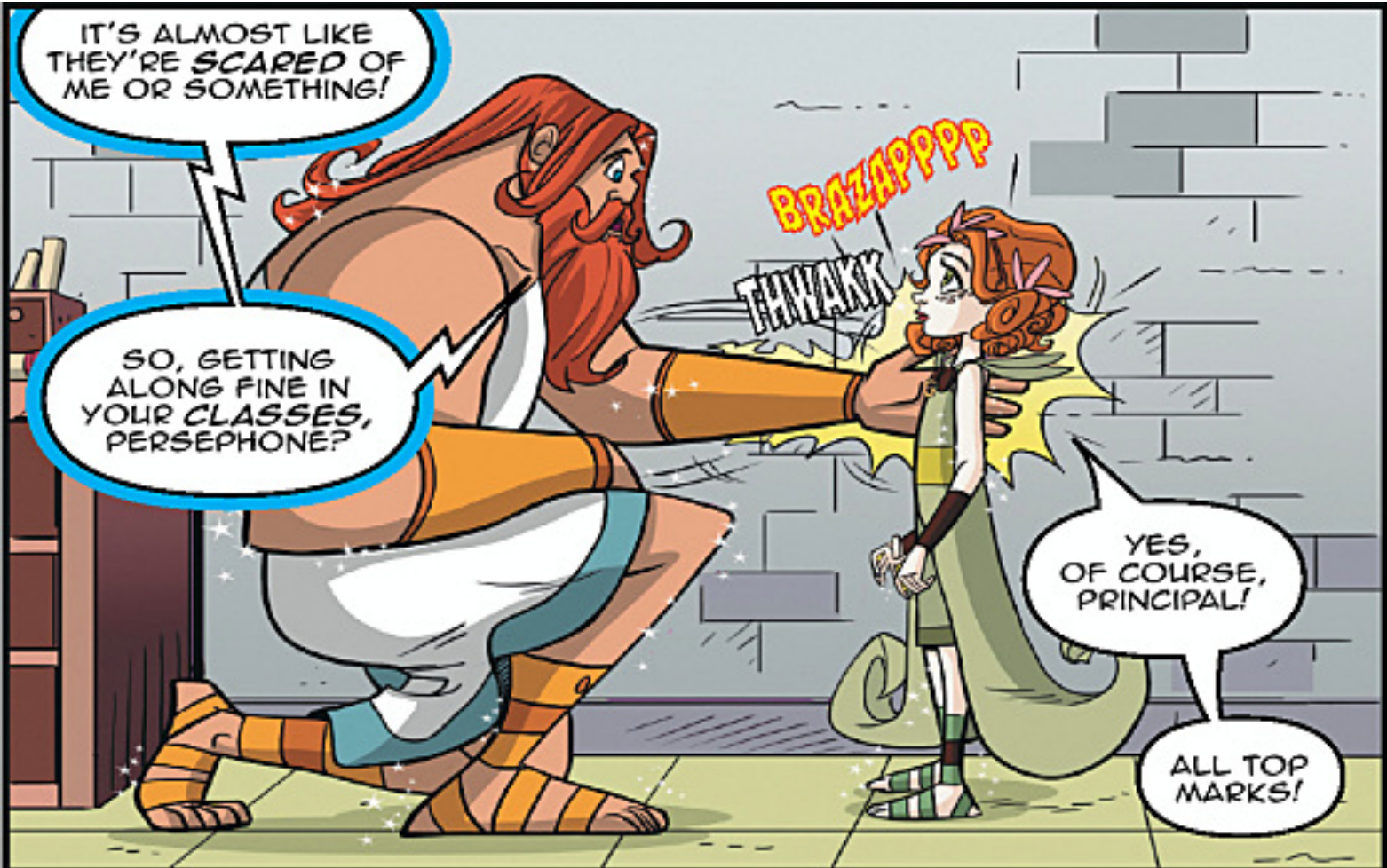
OOOPS!

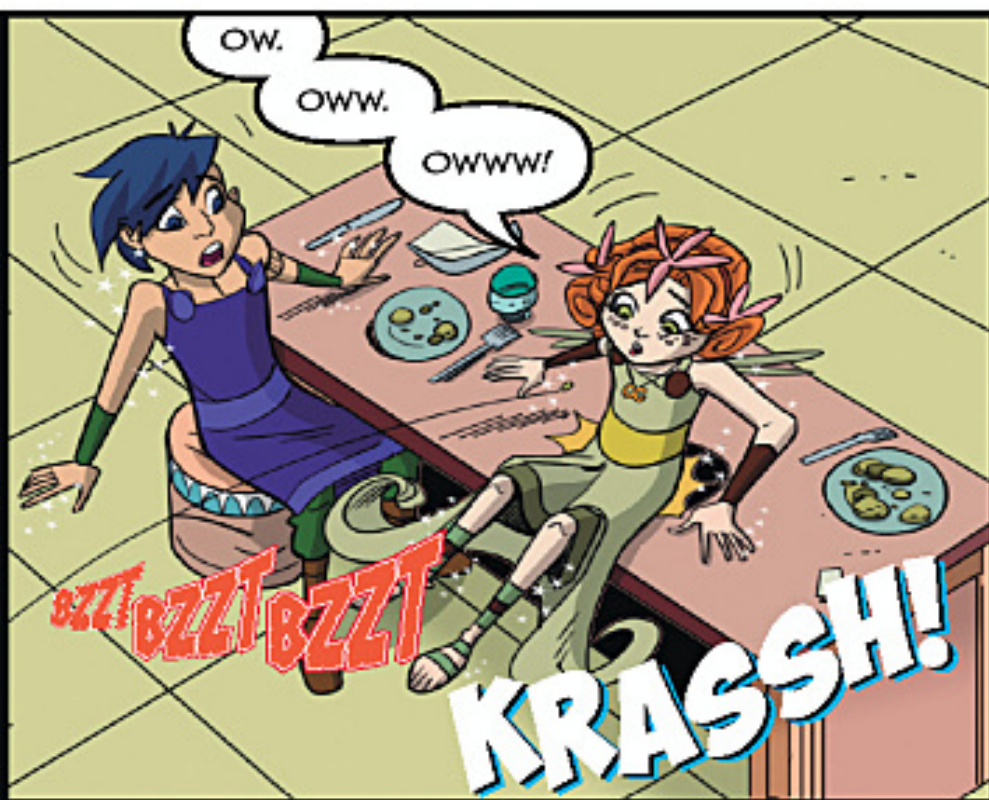
YESSIR,
PRINCIPAL
ZEUS!

K
R
A
K
K
K
K
!

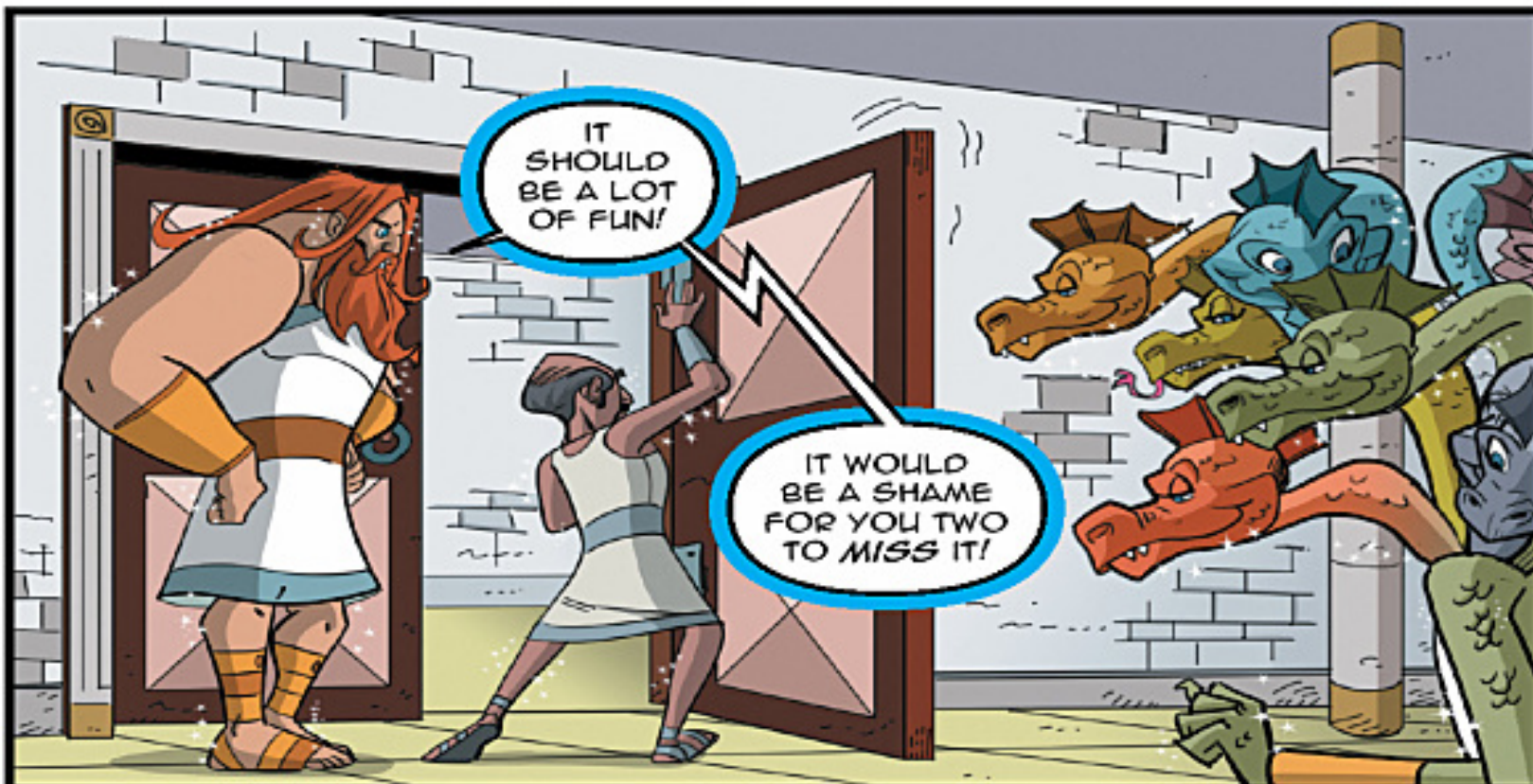
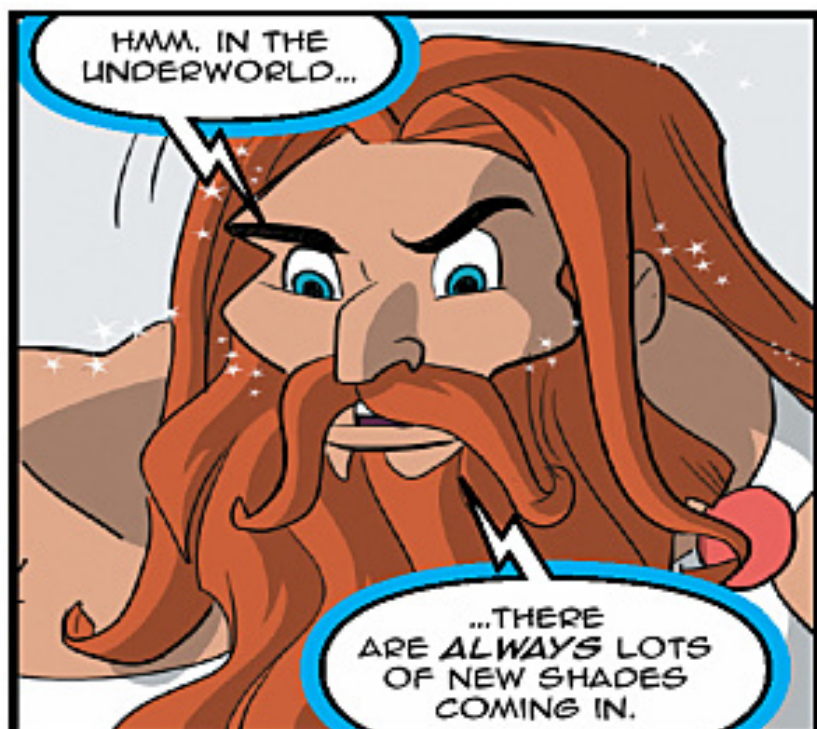
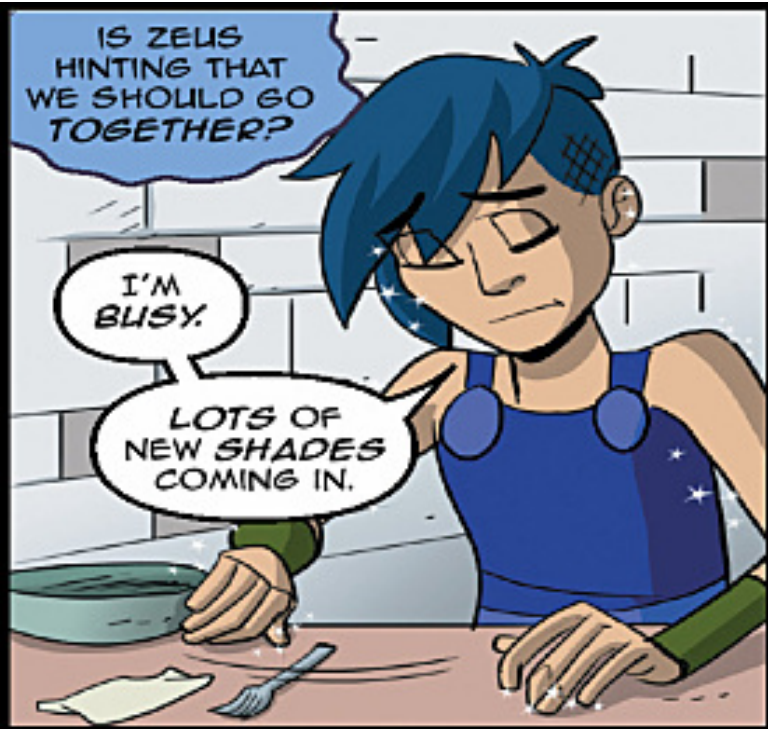


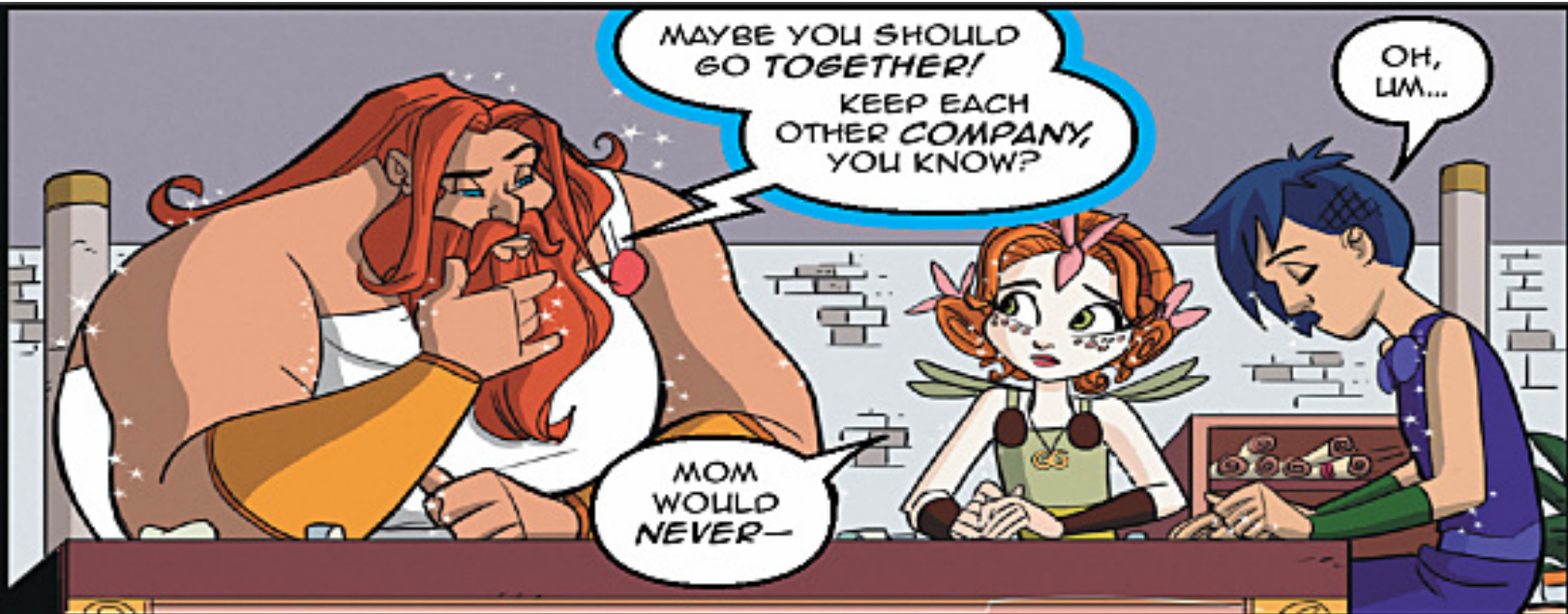








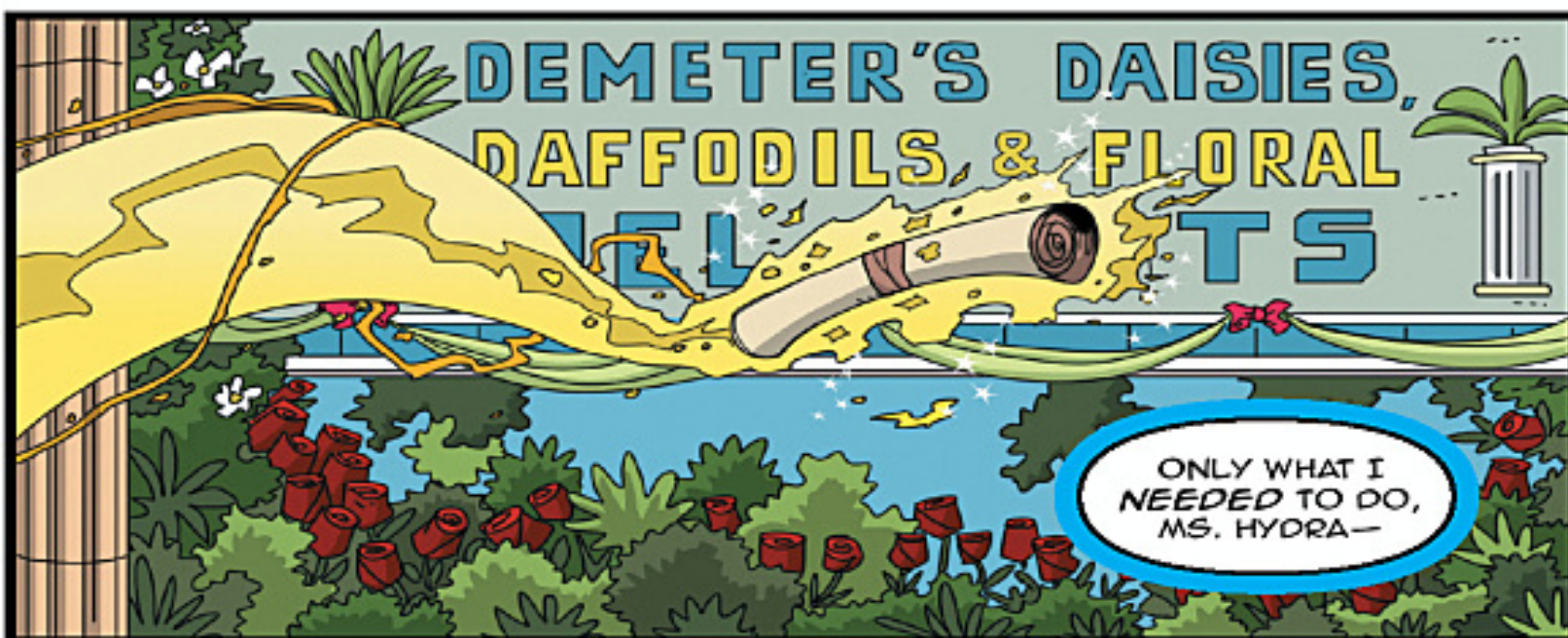
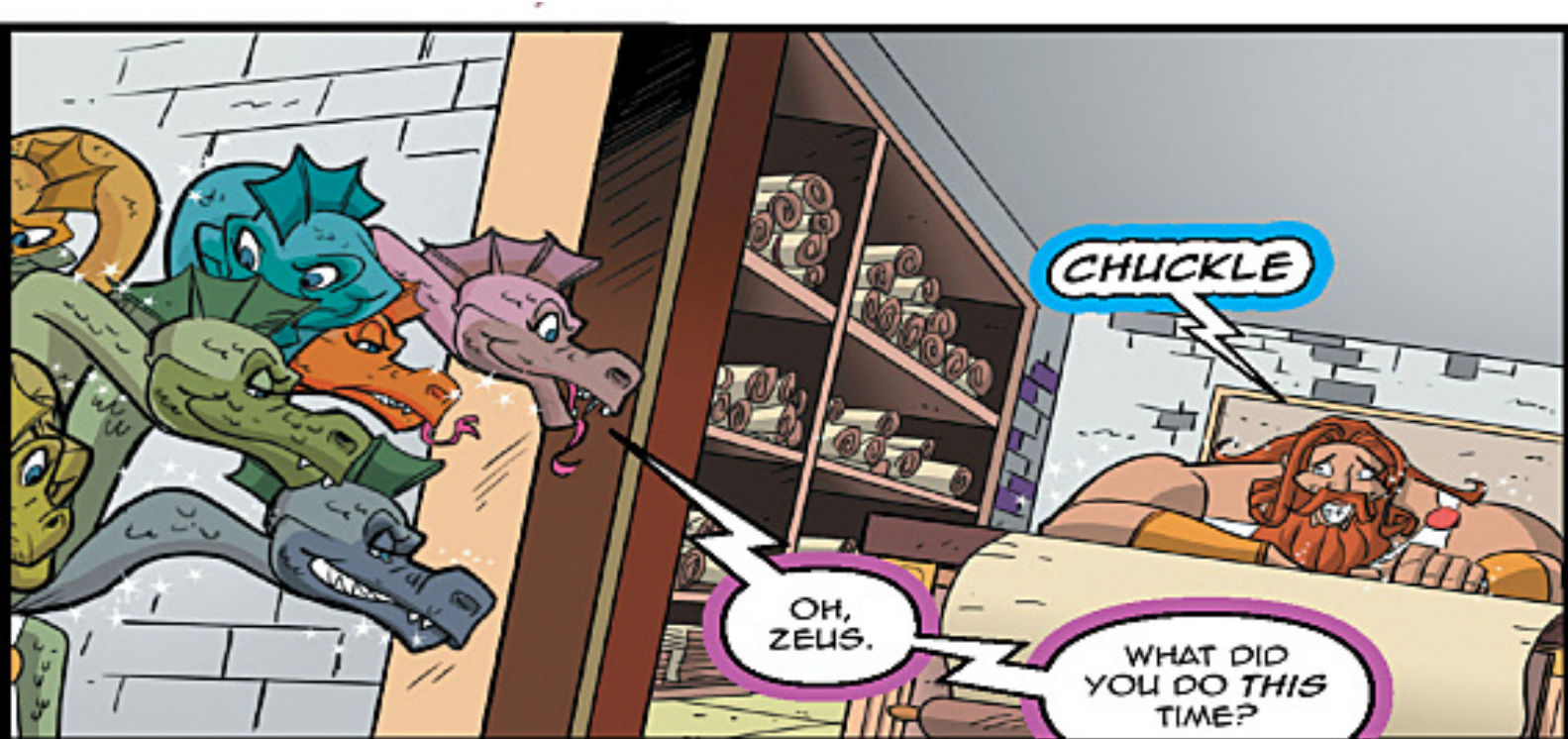












LATER THAT DAY...

HADES ASKED
ME TO GO WITH
HIM, MOM.

I TOLD HIM
I WOULD.

HADES?

A DANCE—?

I DON'T THINK
THAT'S SUCH
A GOOD—

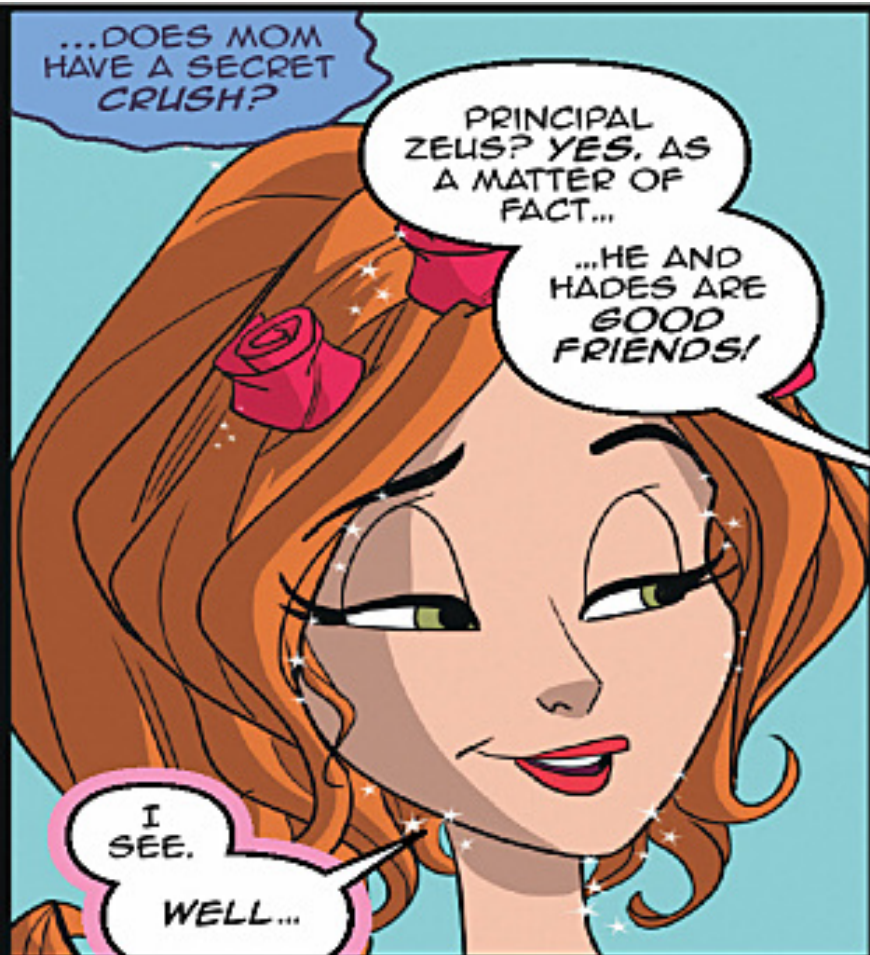
COME ON,
MOM. PLEEEASE!
IT'S JUST A DANCE!
A SCHOOL
DANCE!

THE HARVEST
HOP! NAMED IN
HONOR OF YOU!

PRINCIPAL ZEUS
AND MOST OF THE
TEACHERS WILL
BE THERE...
...SO IT WILL BE
WELL-CHAPERONED.

ZEUS WILL
BE THERE?

WAIT...





CHAPTER 11:
THE DANCE

HADES
IS LATE!

WHAT IF HE
CHANGED HIS
MIND ABOUT
COMING?

WHAT IF HE
GOT STUCK ON
SOME ERRAND
IN TARTARUS?

SHADES COULD BE
AWFULLY WHINY AND
DEMANDING—JUST AS
THEY WERE IN LIFE, I
SUPPOSE!

WHY DON'T
YOU ALL GO IN
WITHOUT ME?

I'M SURE
HADES WILL BE
HERE SOON!

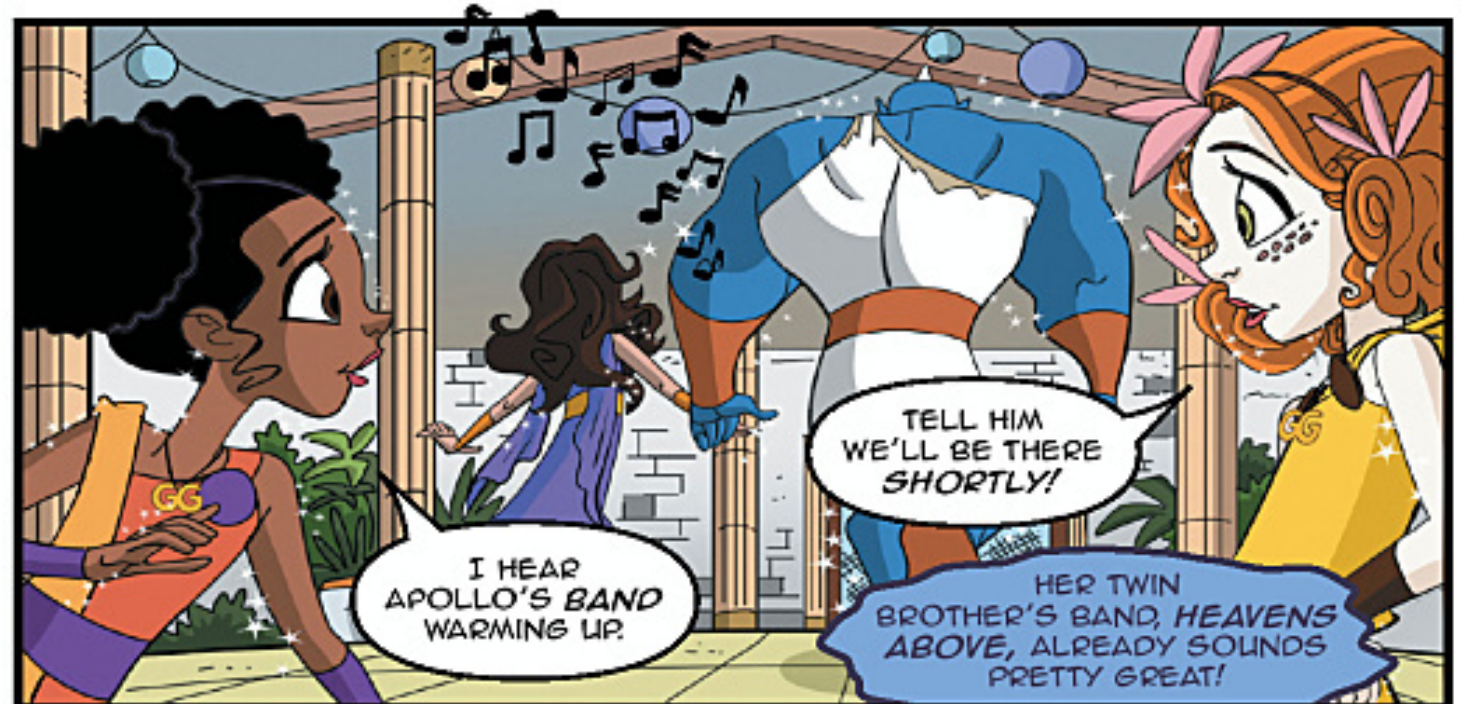
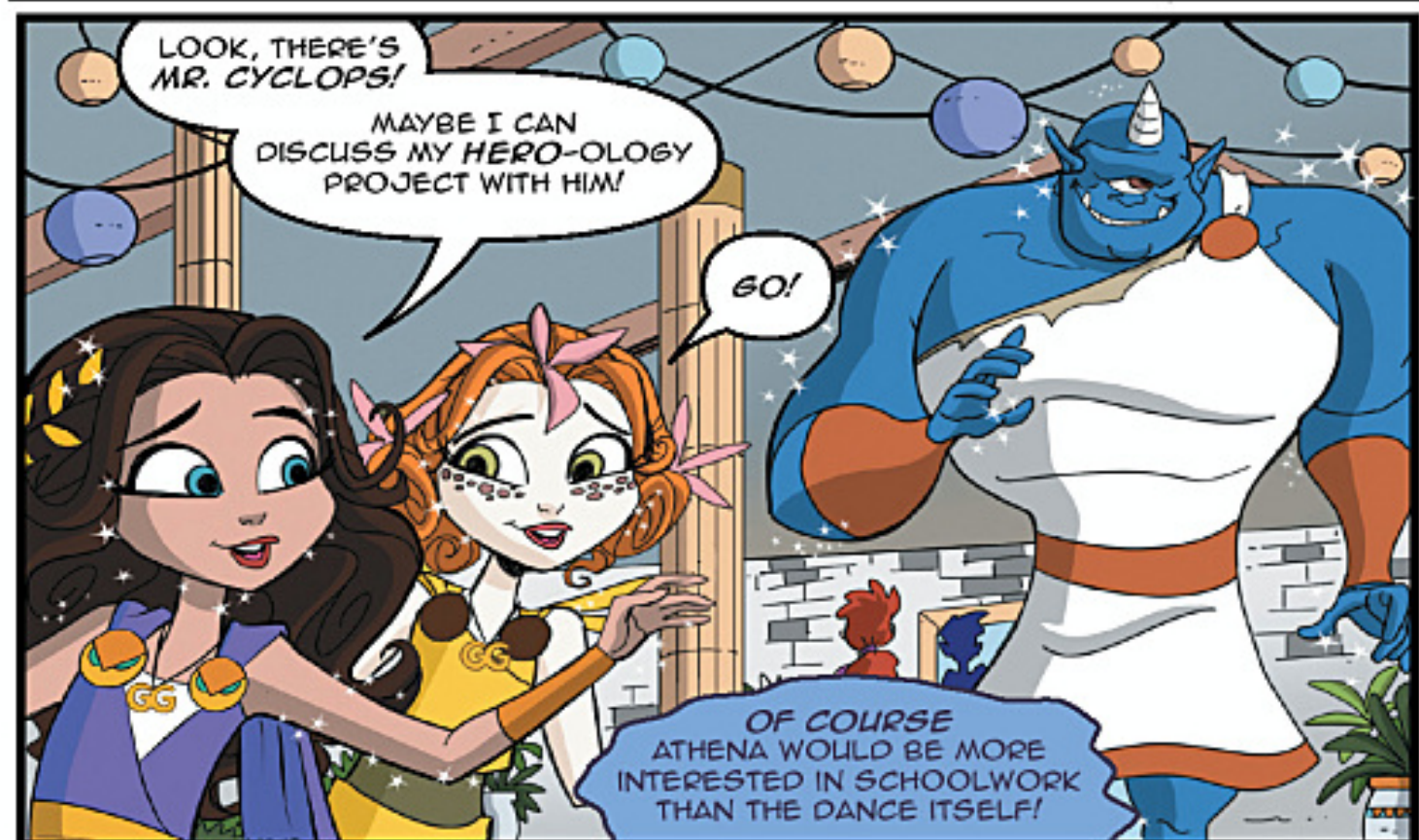
YOU
WON'T
MIND...?

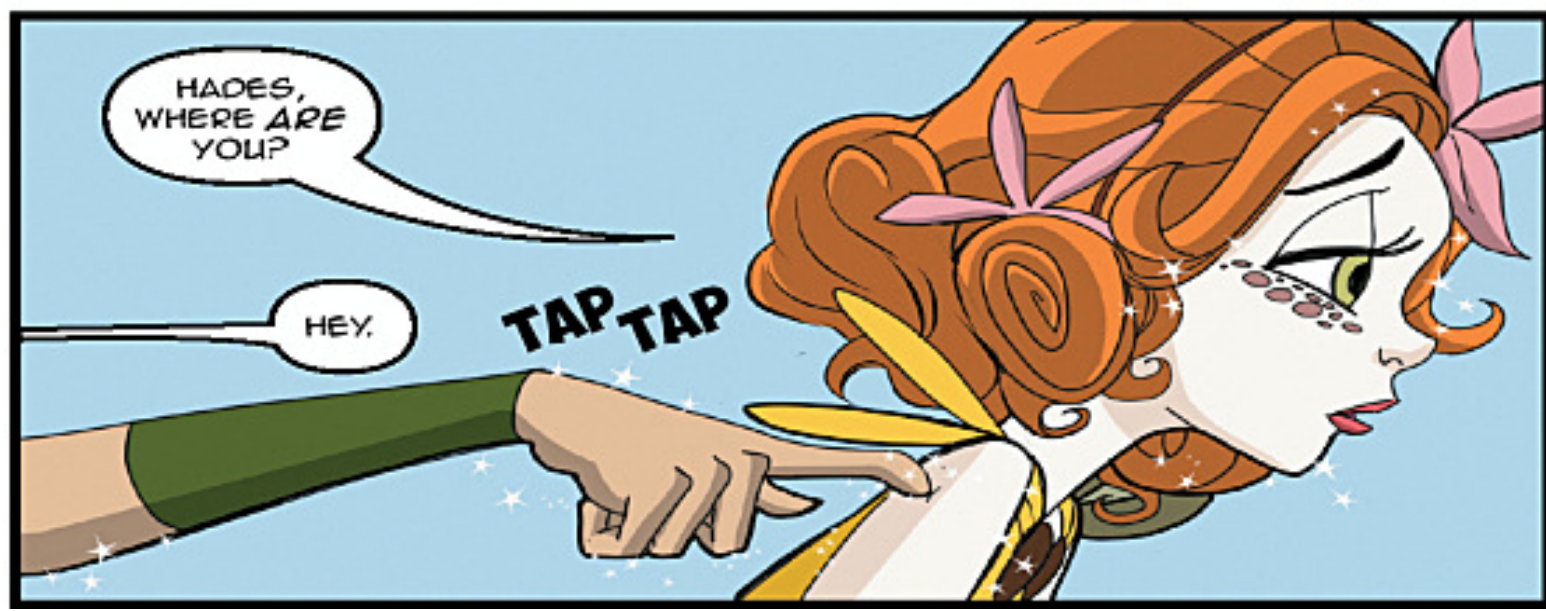
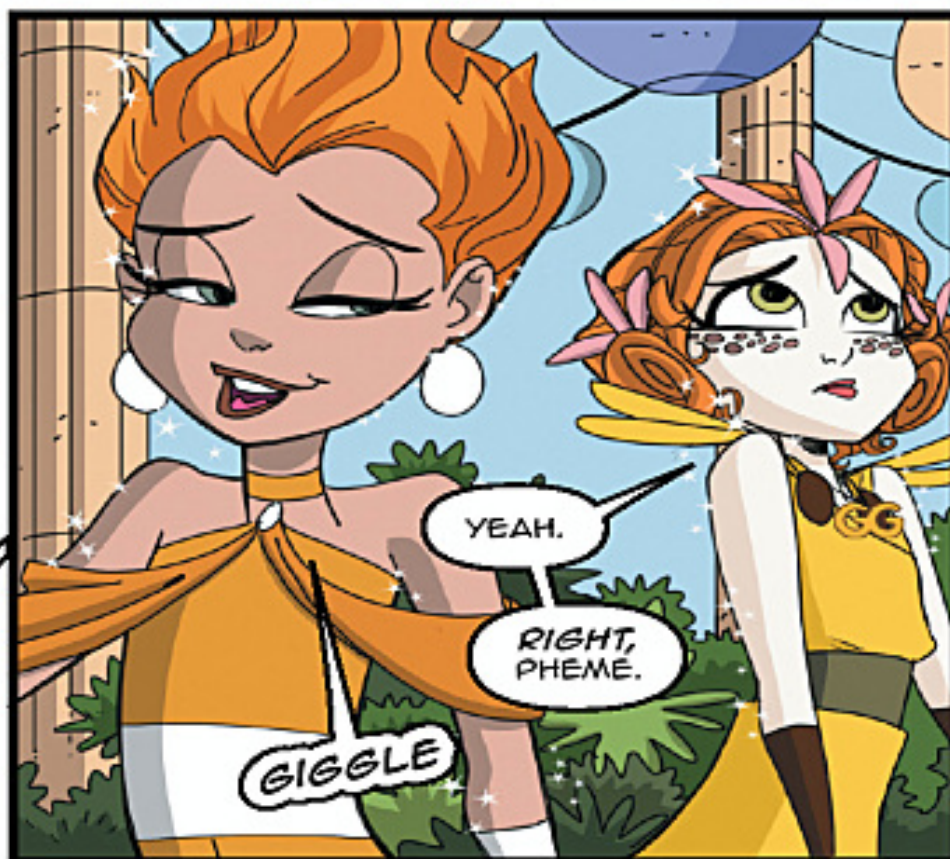
WE
CAN HANG
LONGER,
IF—

ARVEST
SHOP









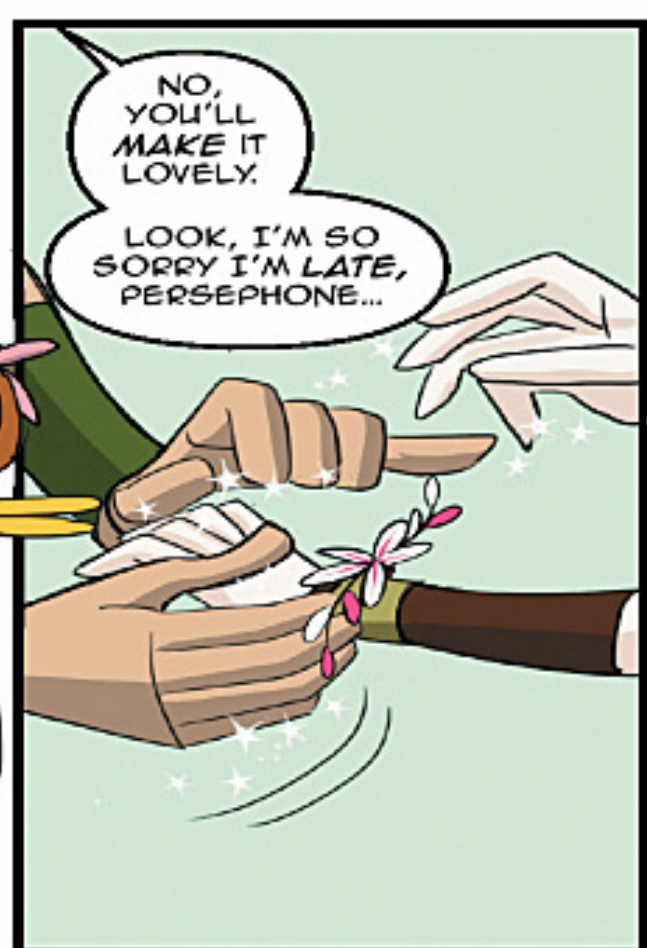
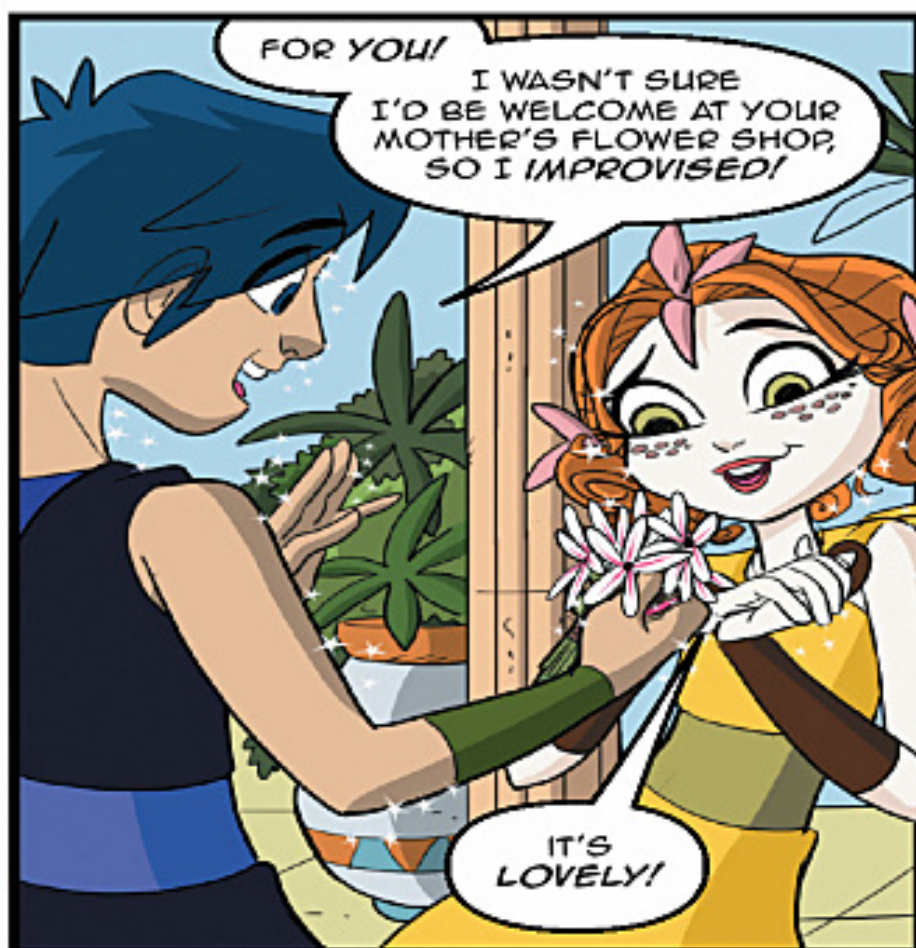


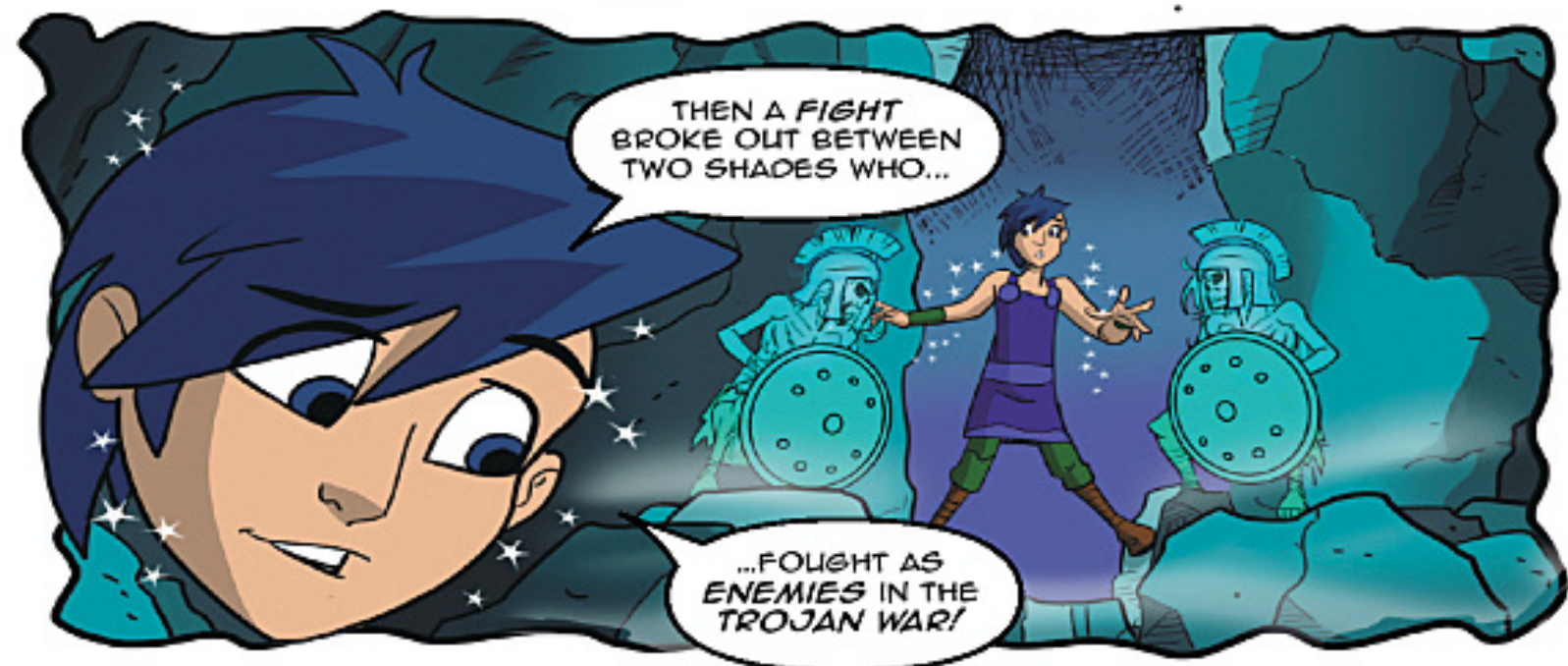
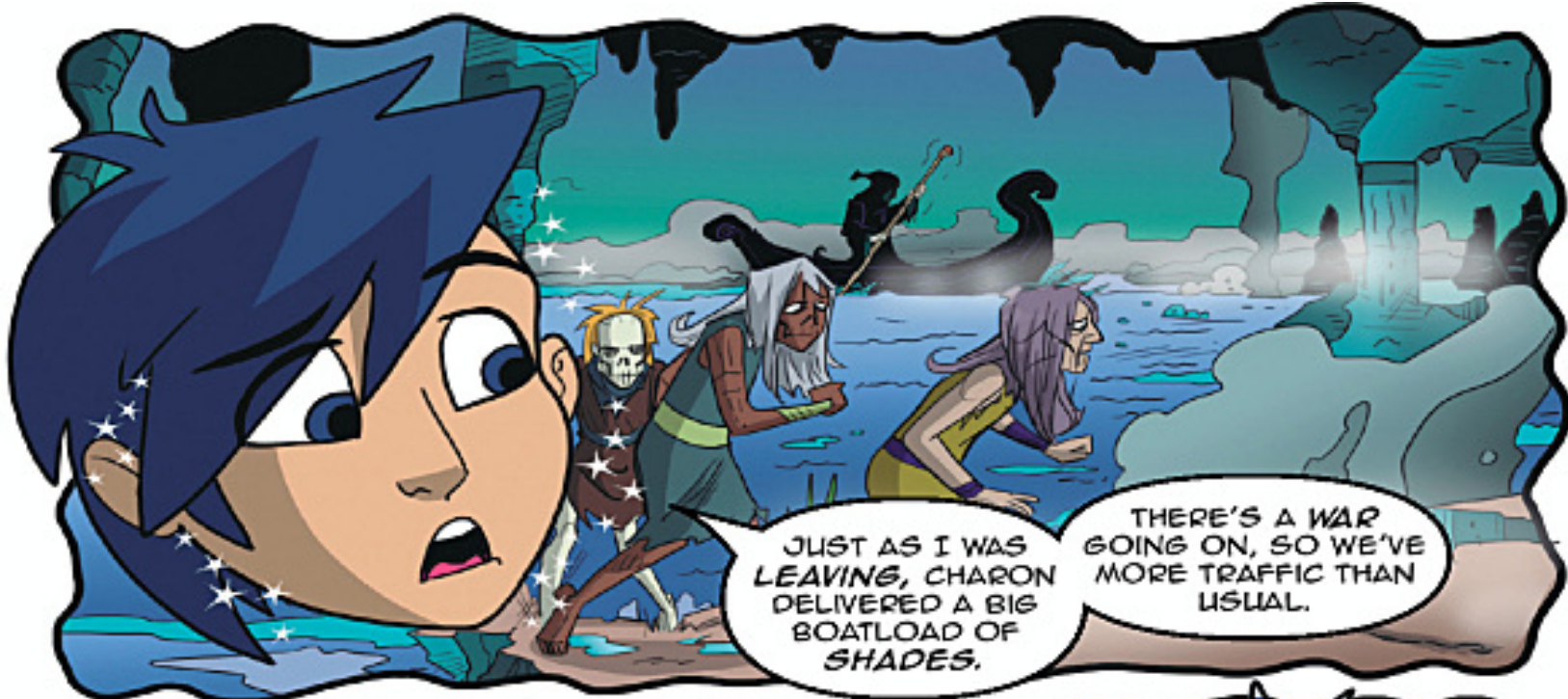
HADES!

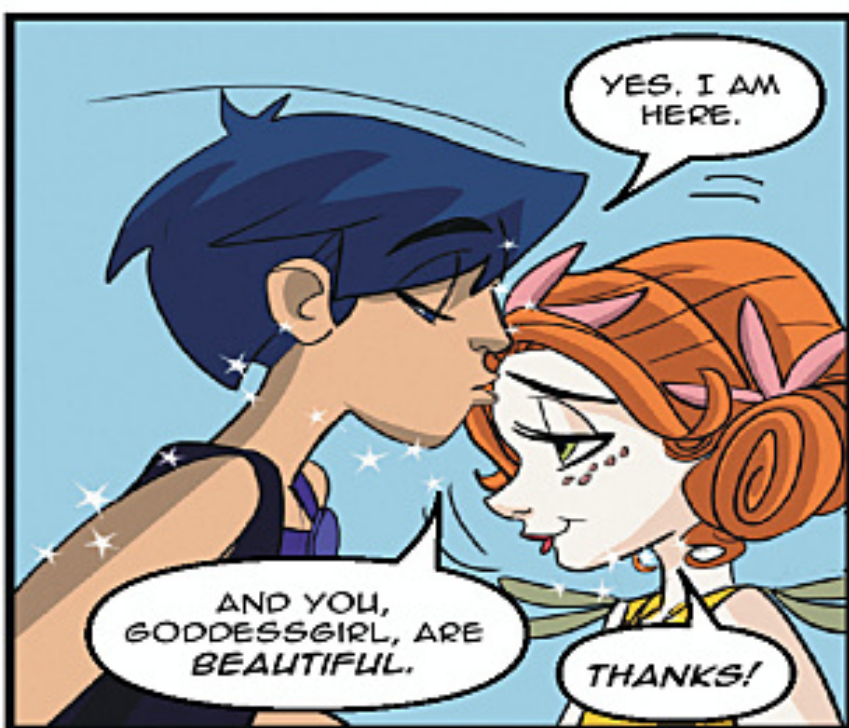
I WAS AFRAID
YOU WEREN'T GOING
TO SHOW UP!

THERE WAS
NO WAY I WAS GOING
TO DISAPPOINT YOU
TONIGHT,
PERSEPHONE.

NOT A
CHANCE!









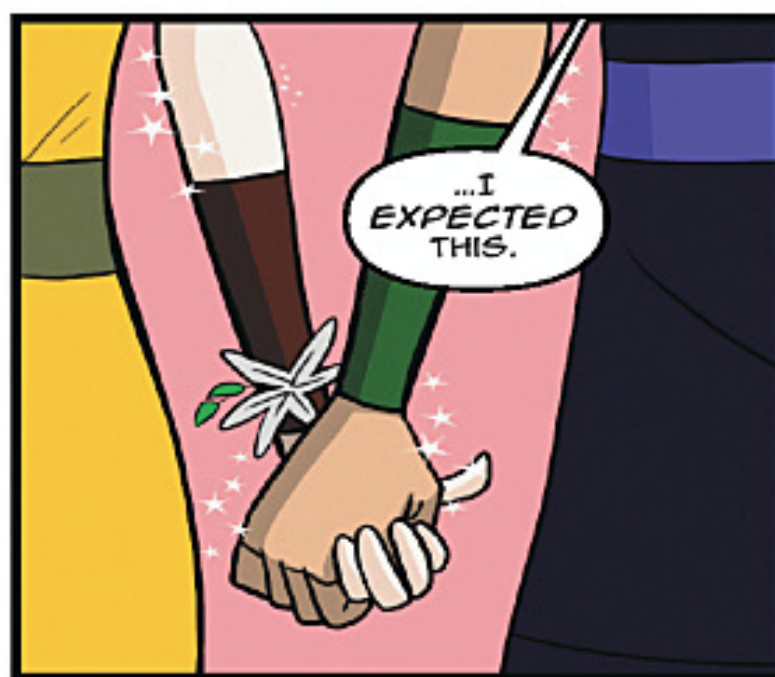
HEAVENS

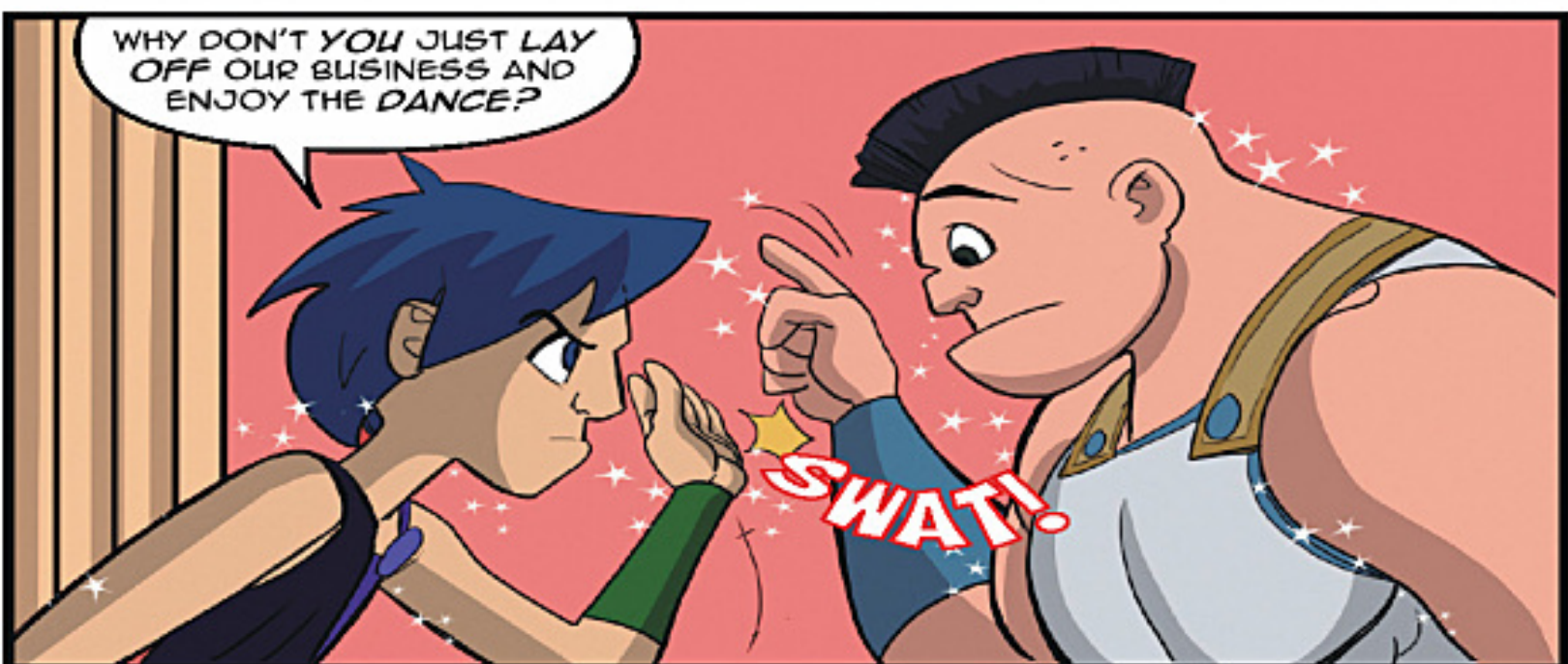
I'LL TRY!

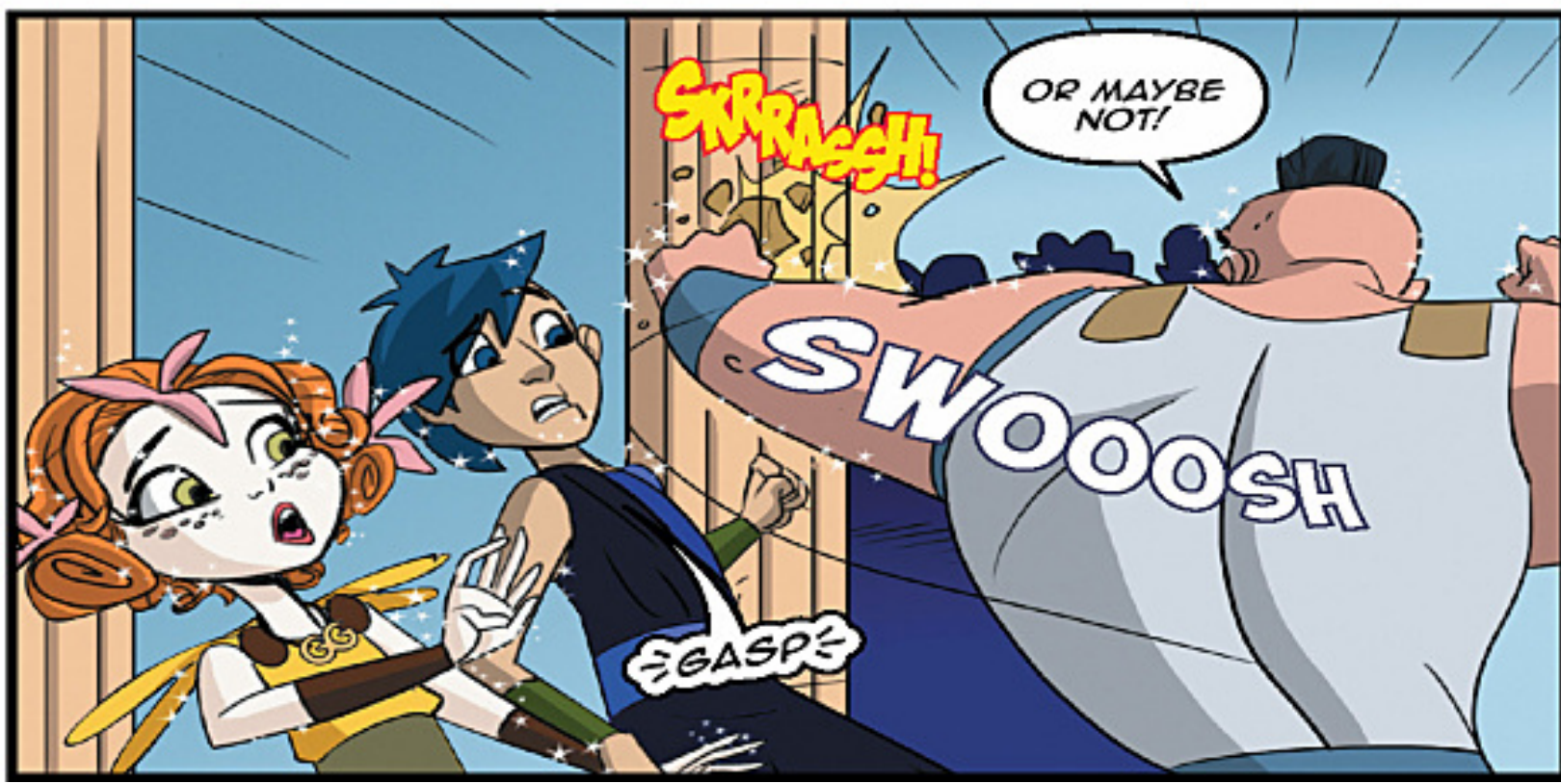


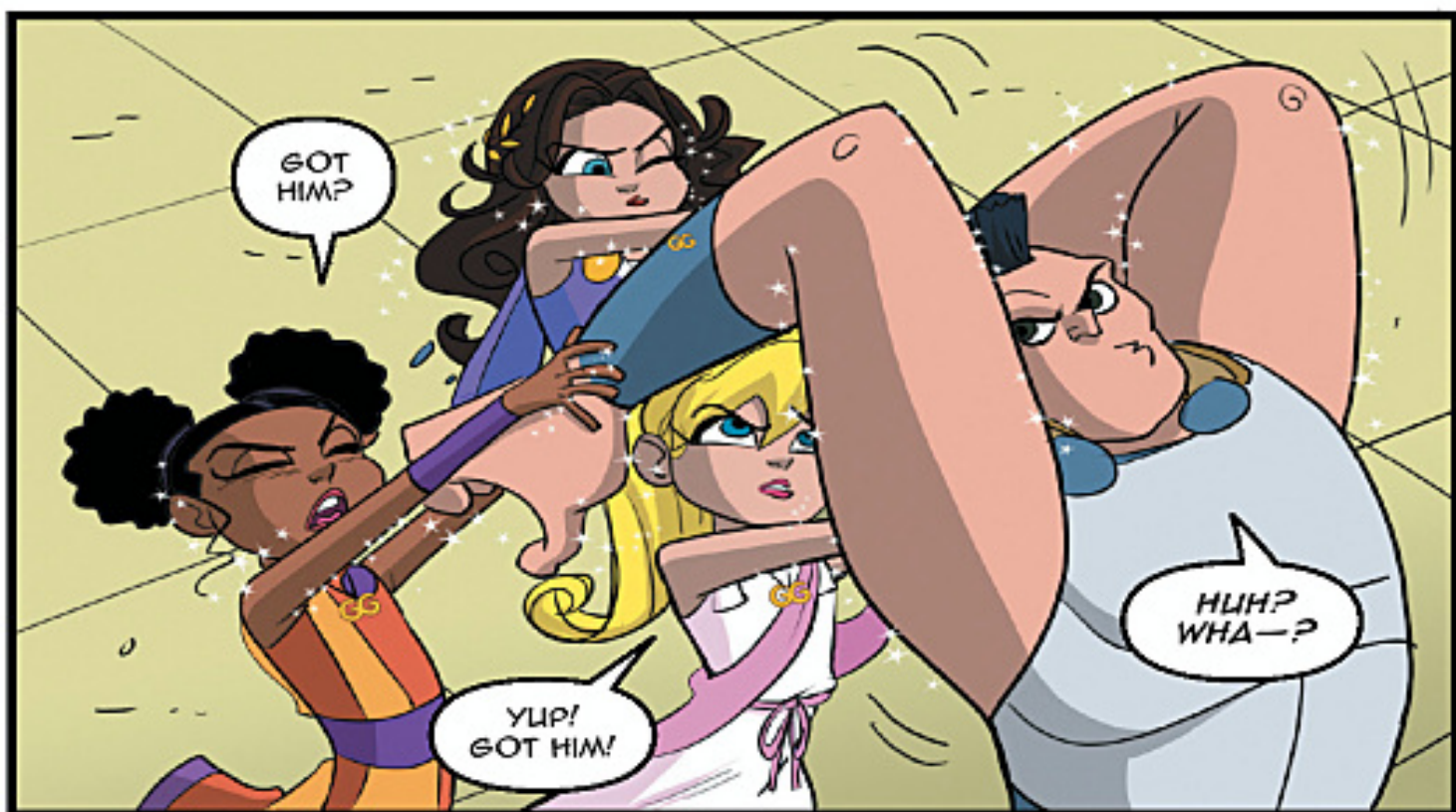
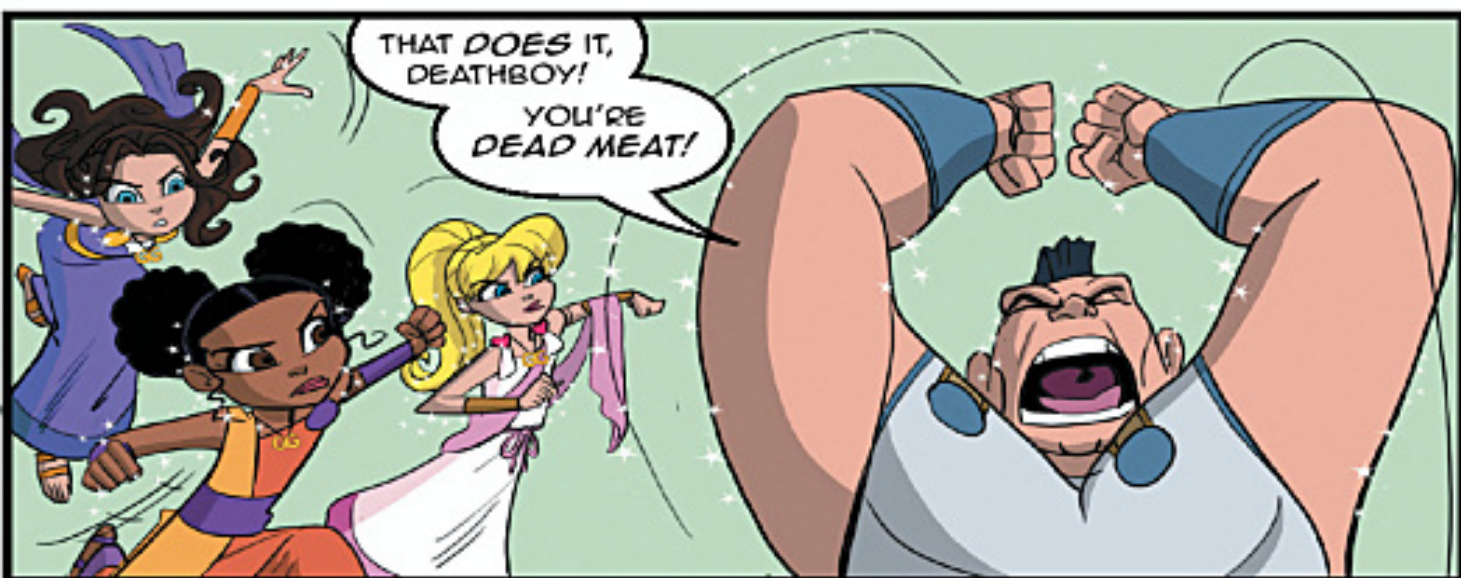
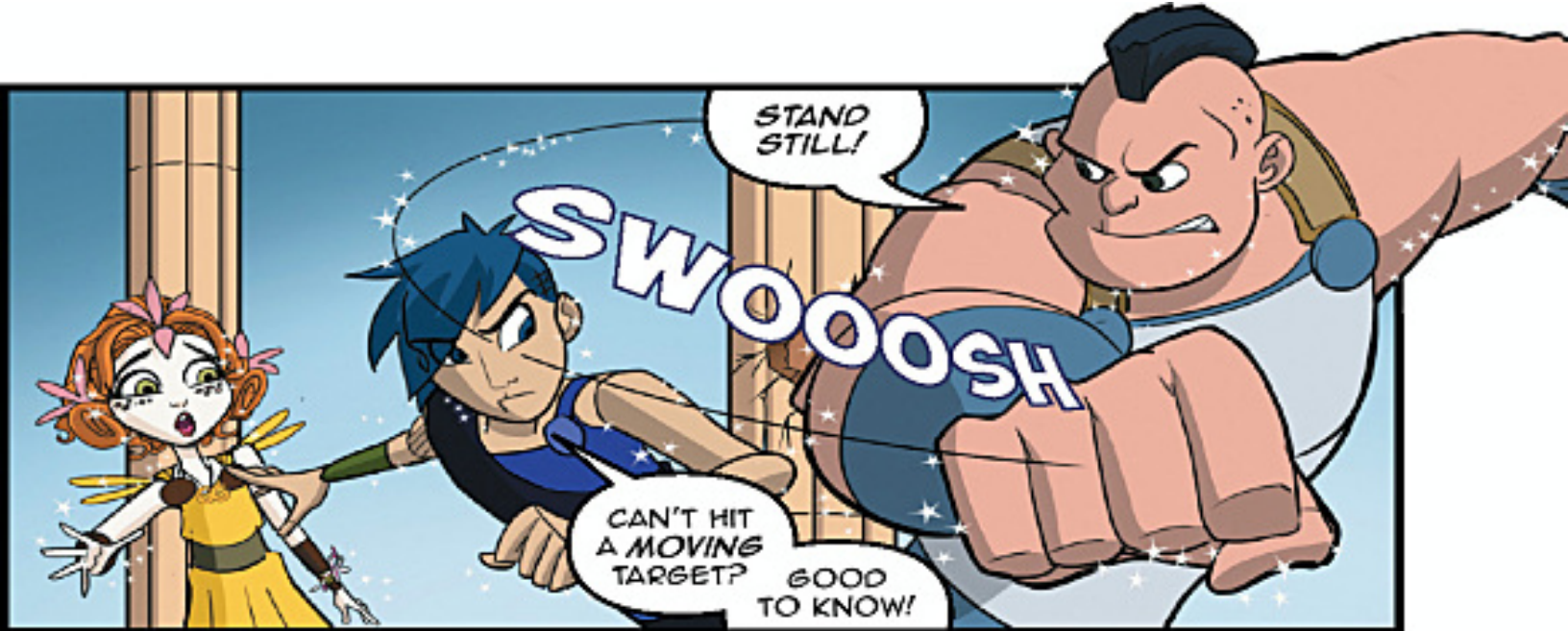
ABOVE

IT IS A PARTY, AFTER ALL!

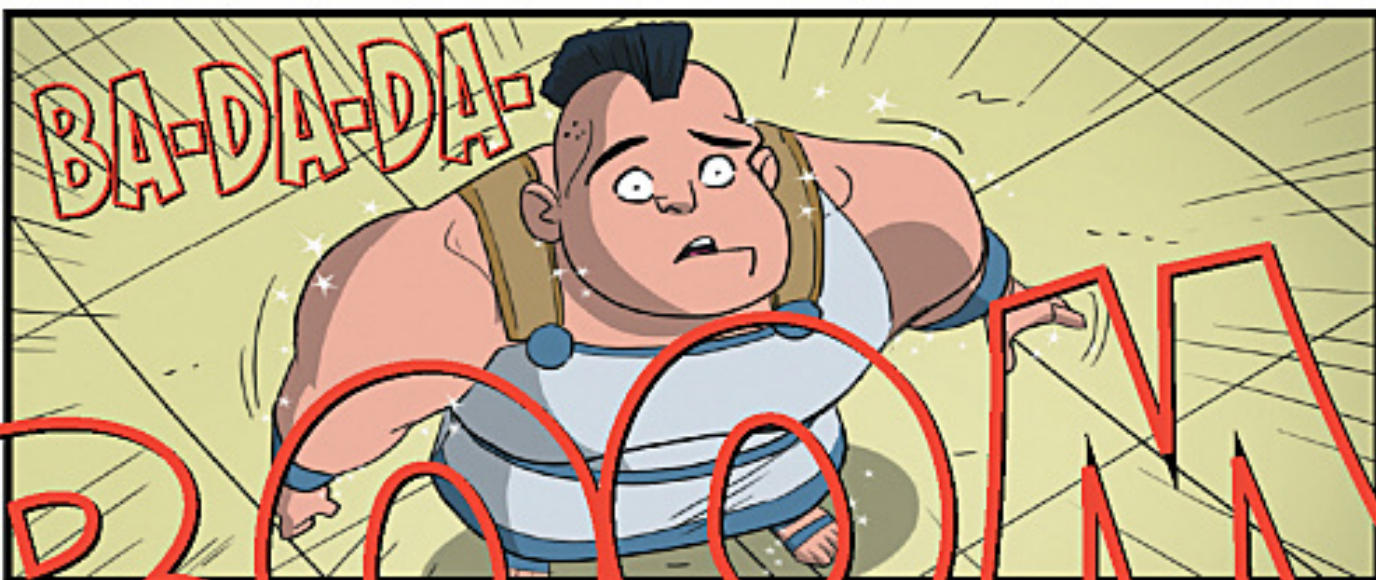
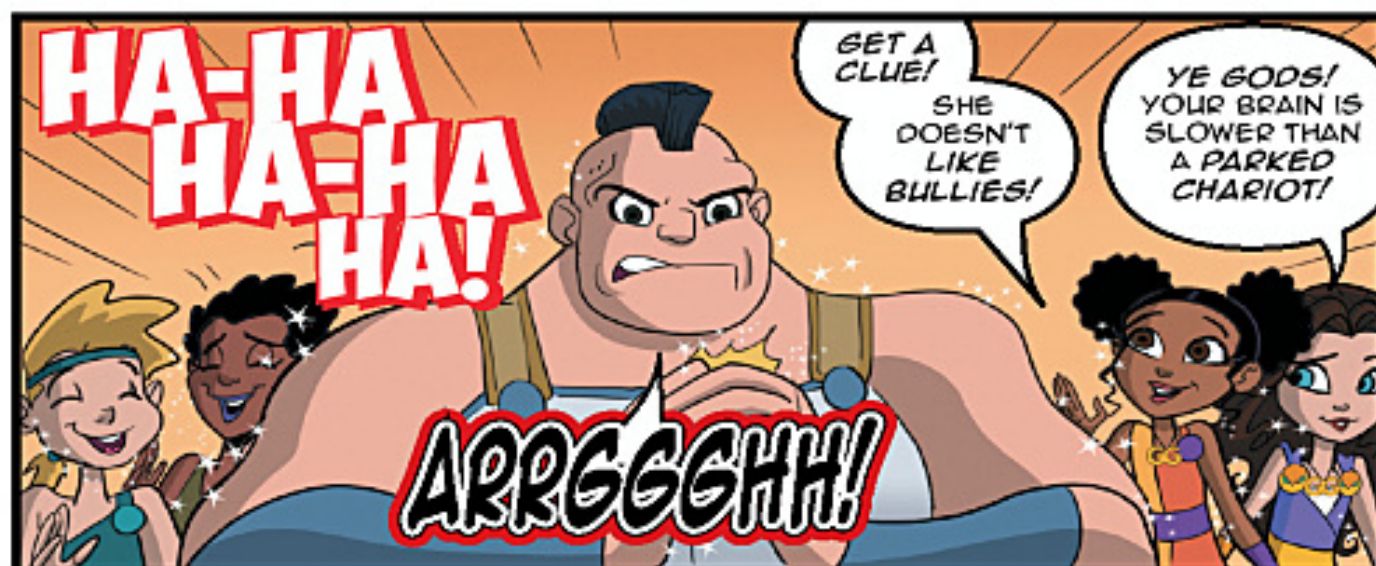












BOON!

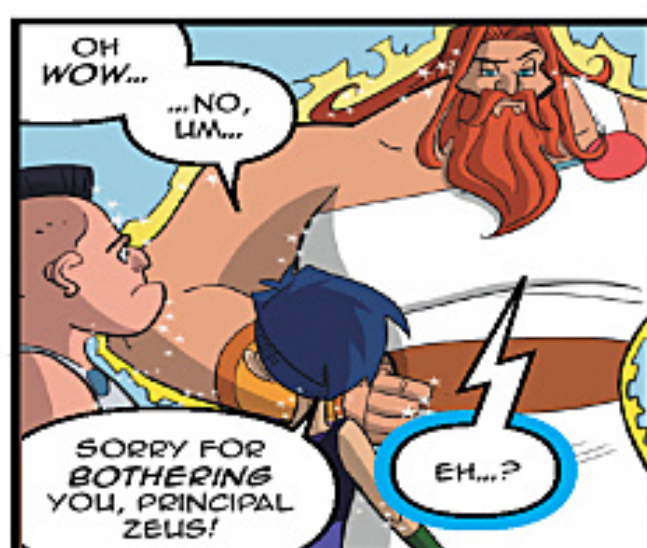
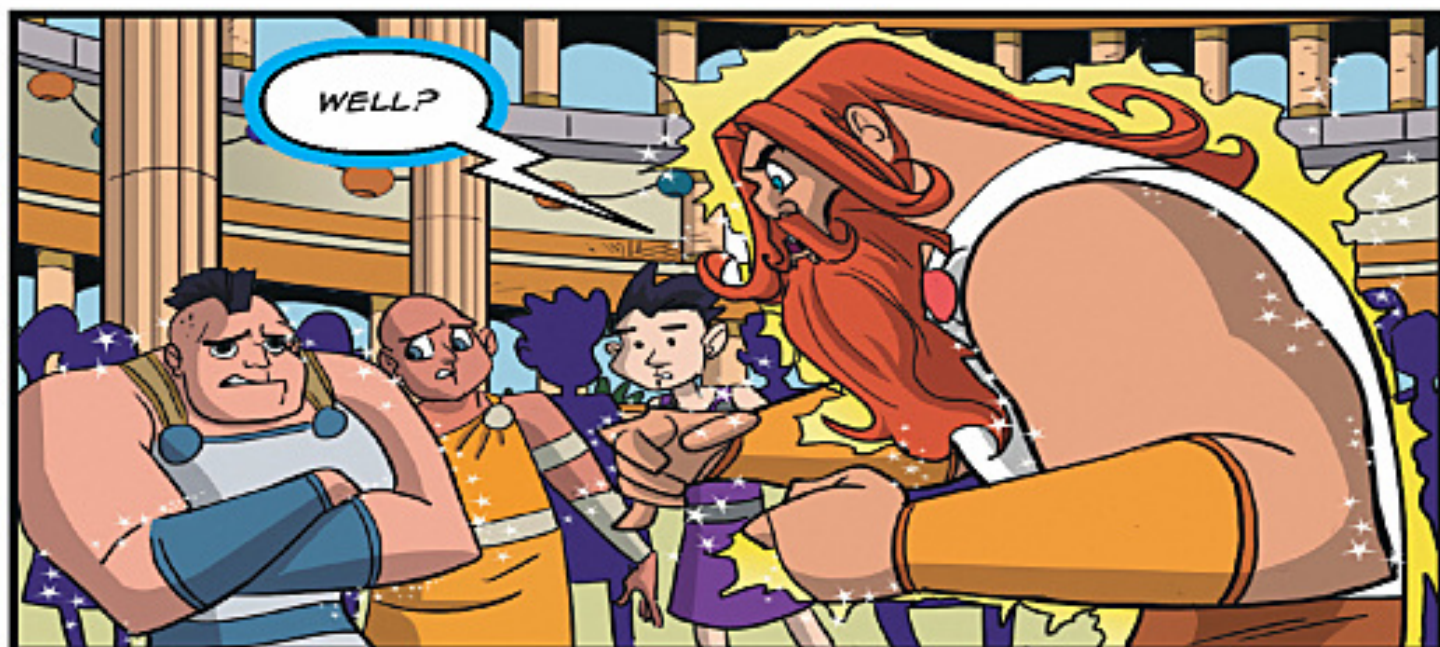
WHAT'S
GOING ON
HERE?

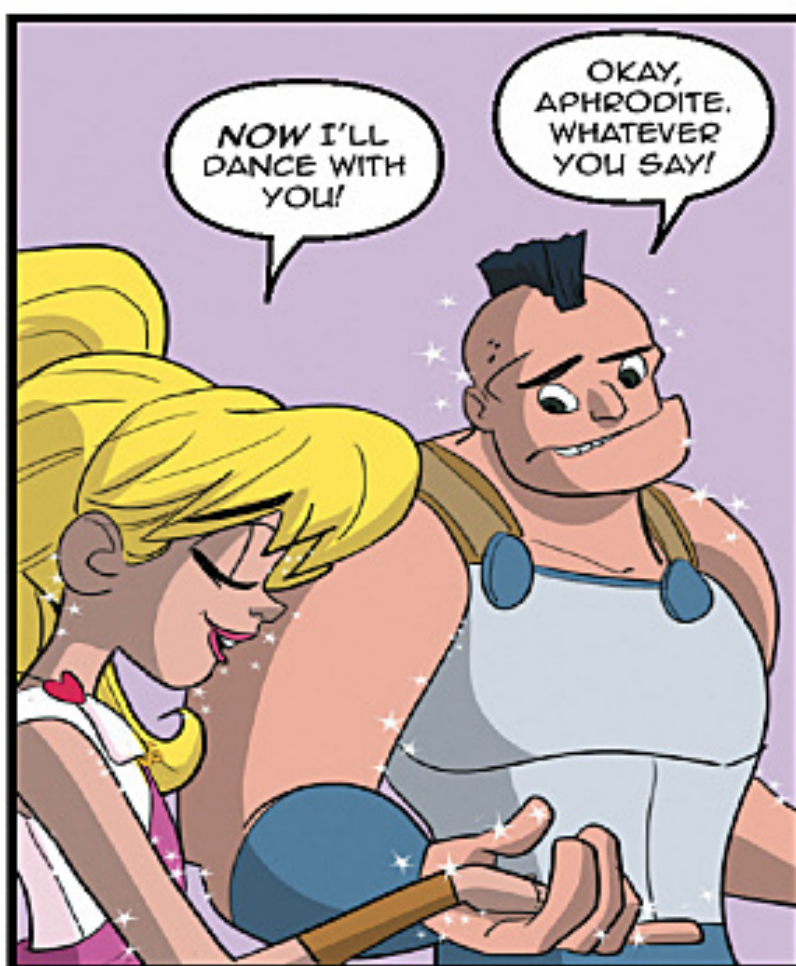
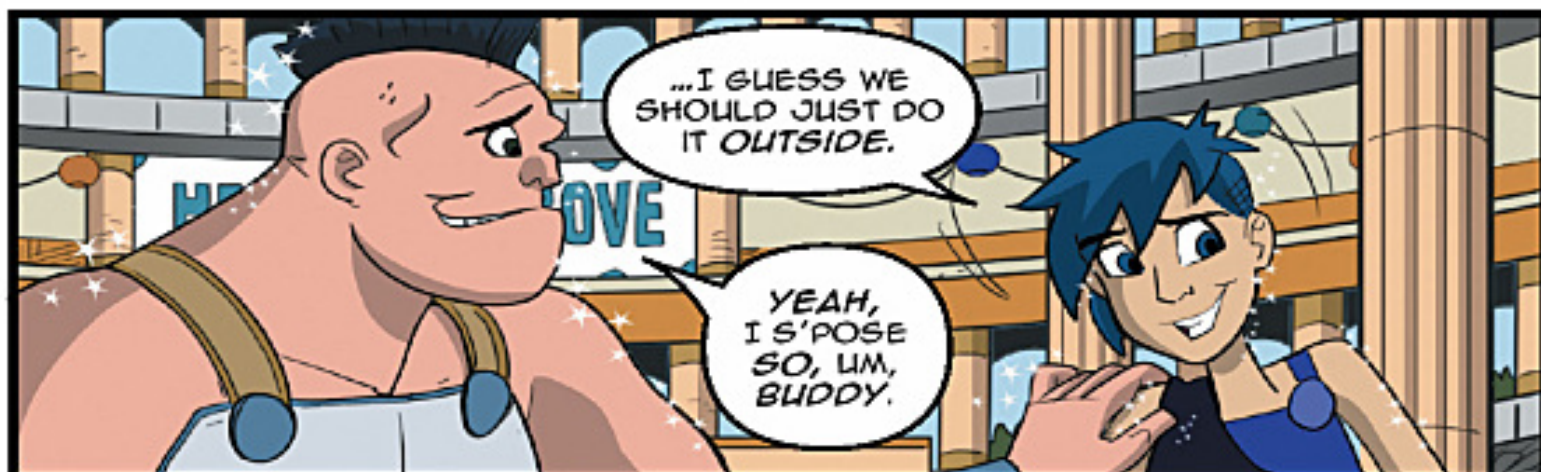
WITH ALL THIS
COMMOTION...

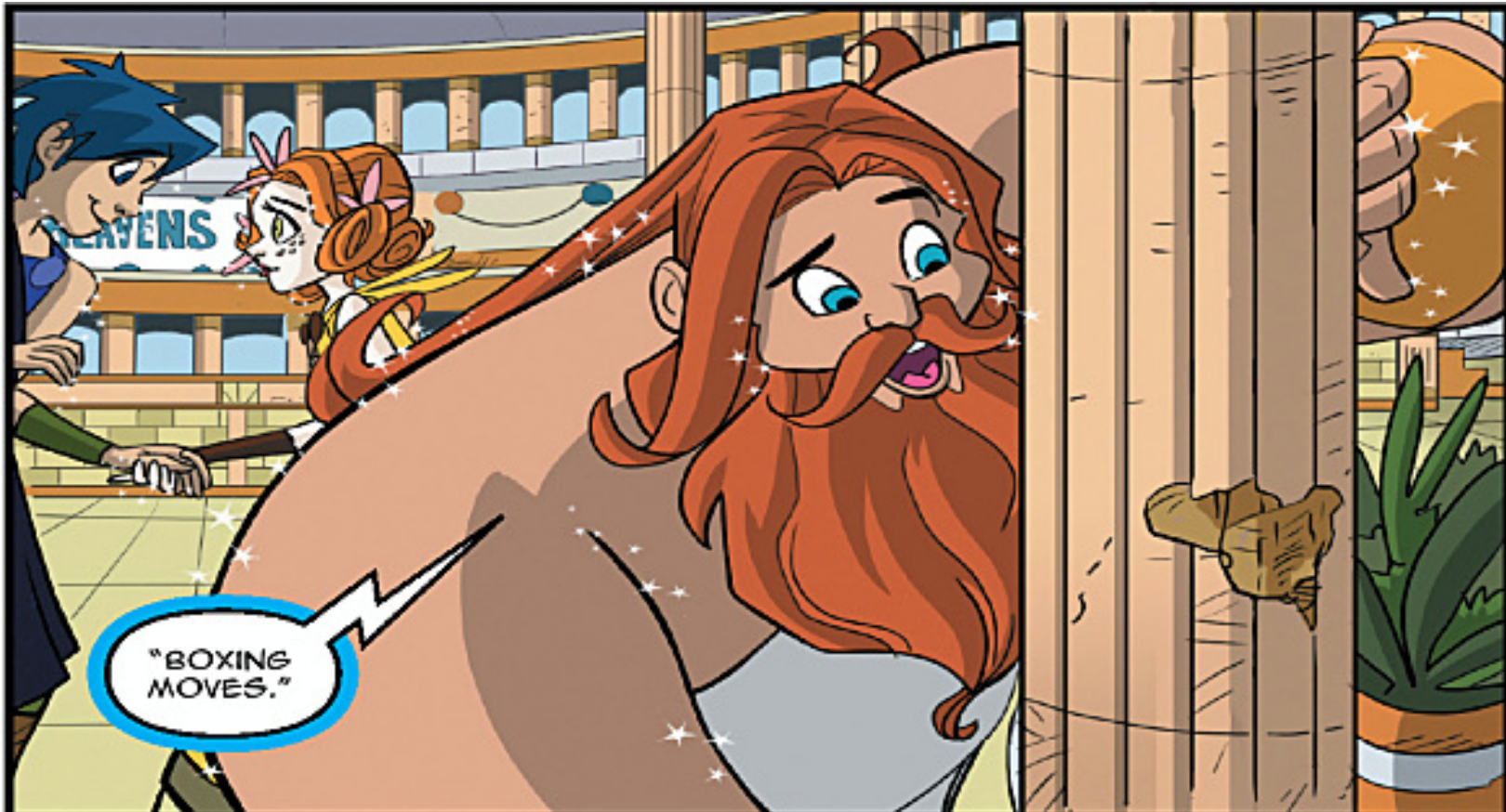
...I CAN HARDLY
HEAR THE BAND
PLAYING!!

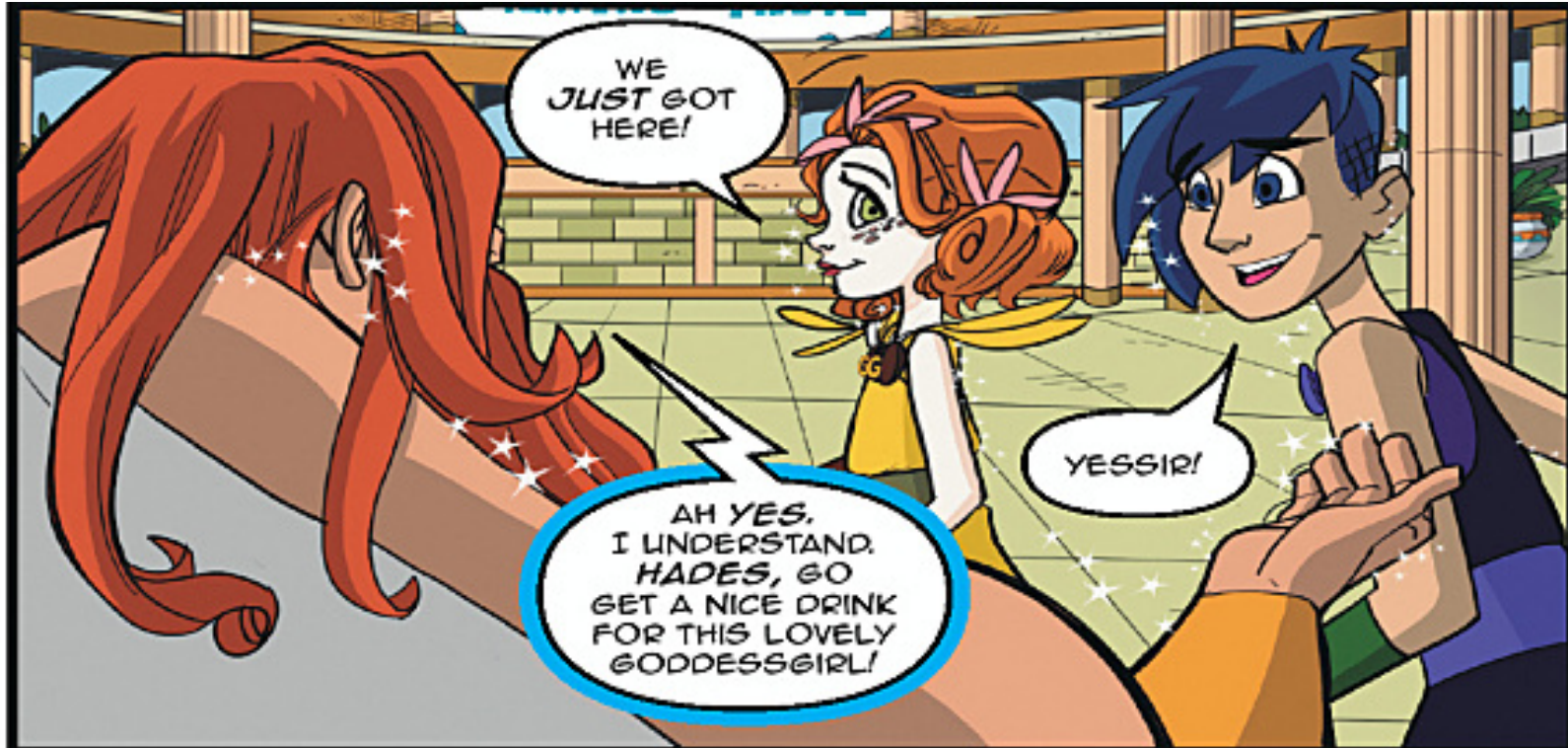
I WONDER HOW HE
CAN HEAR ANYTHING
OVER HIS OWN
LOUD VOICE!

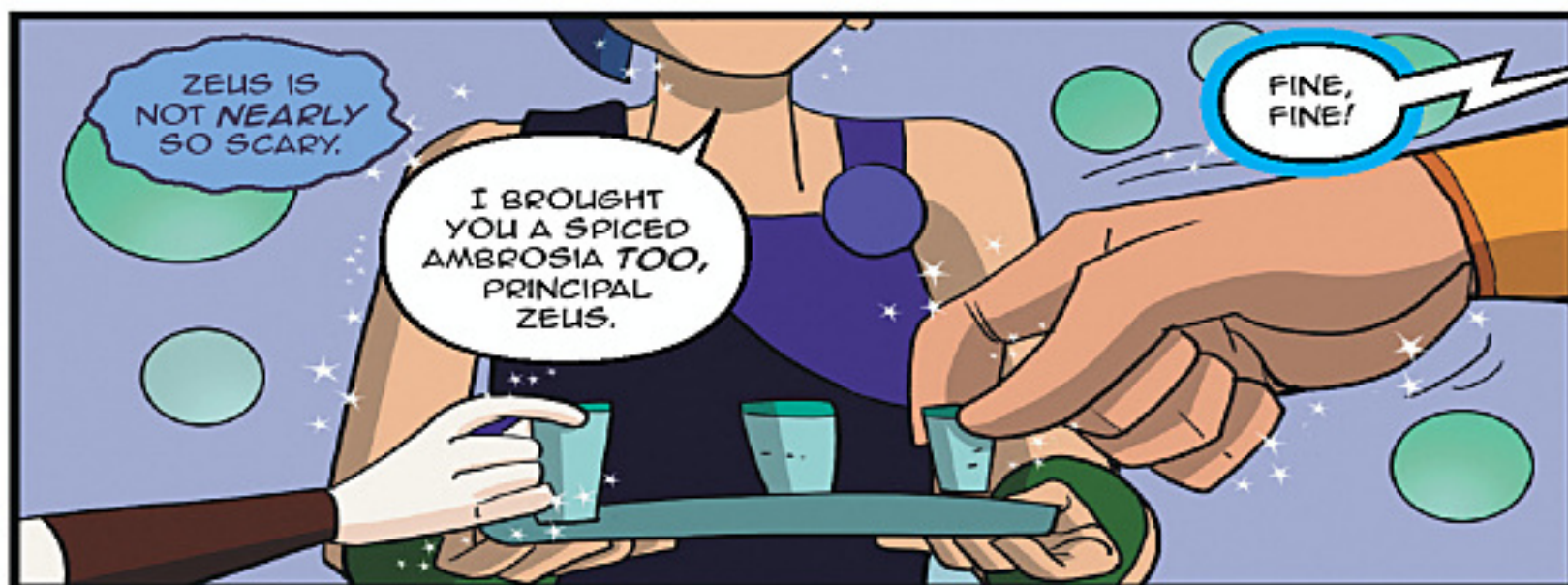
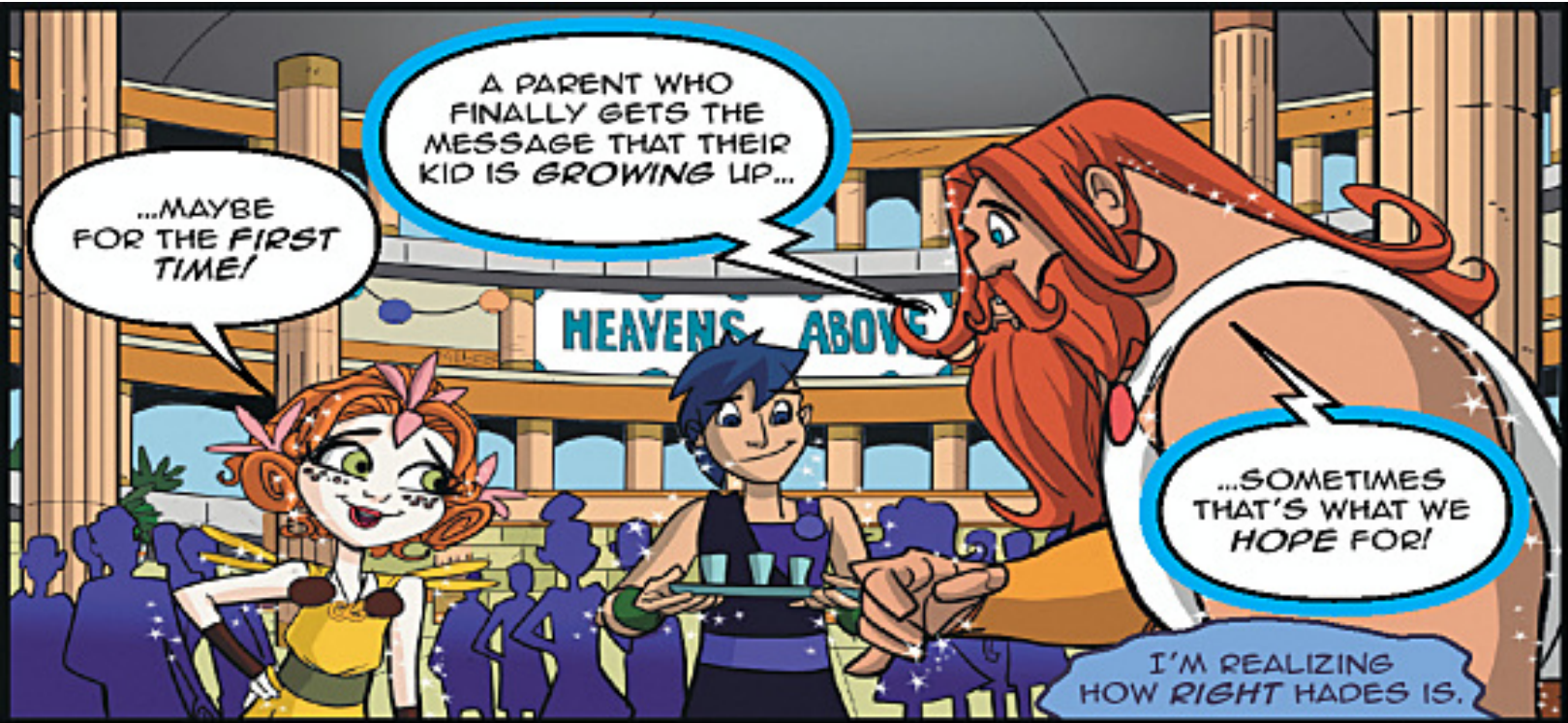


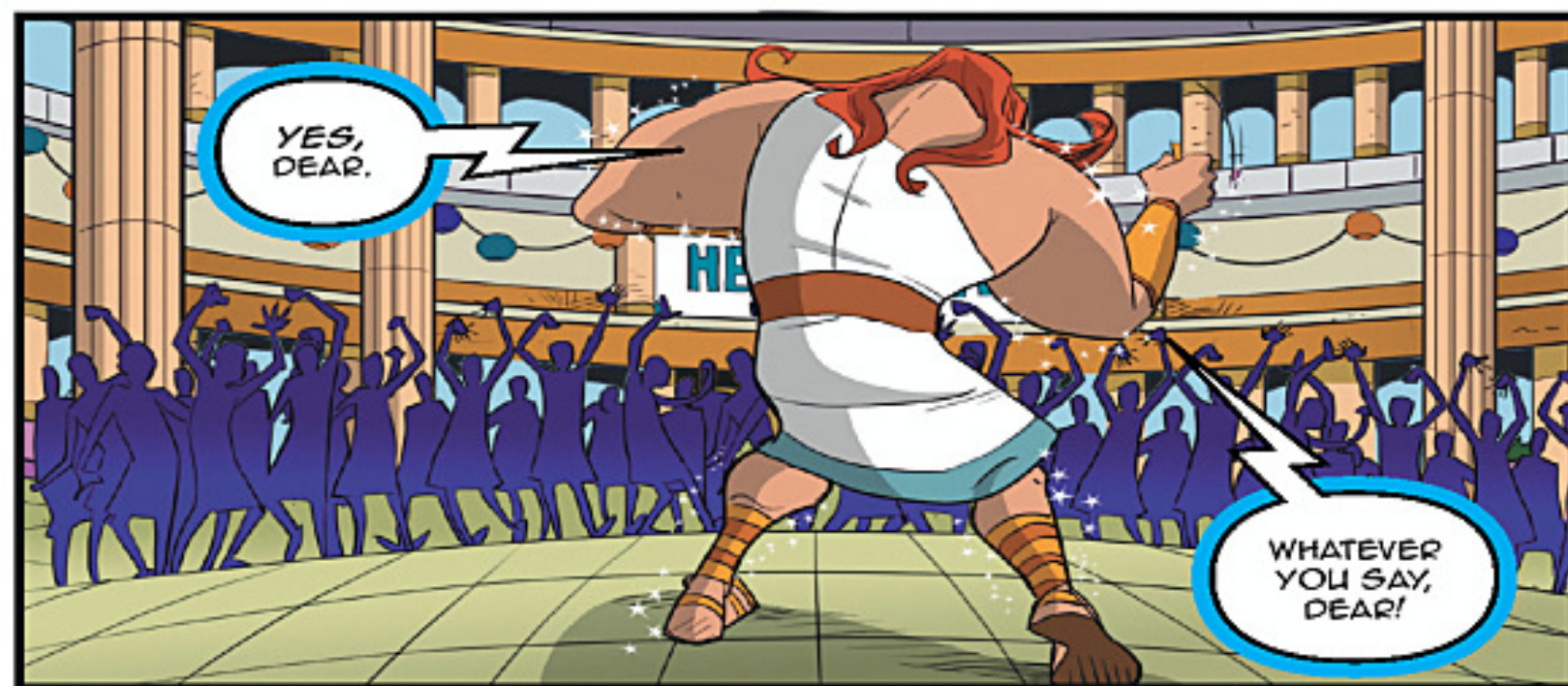


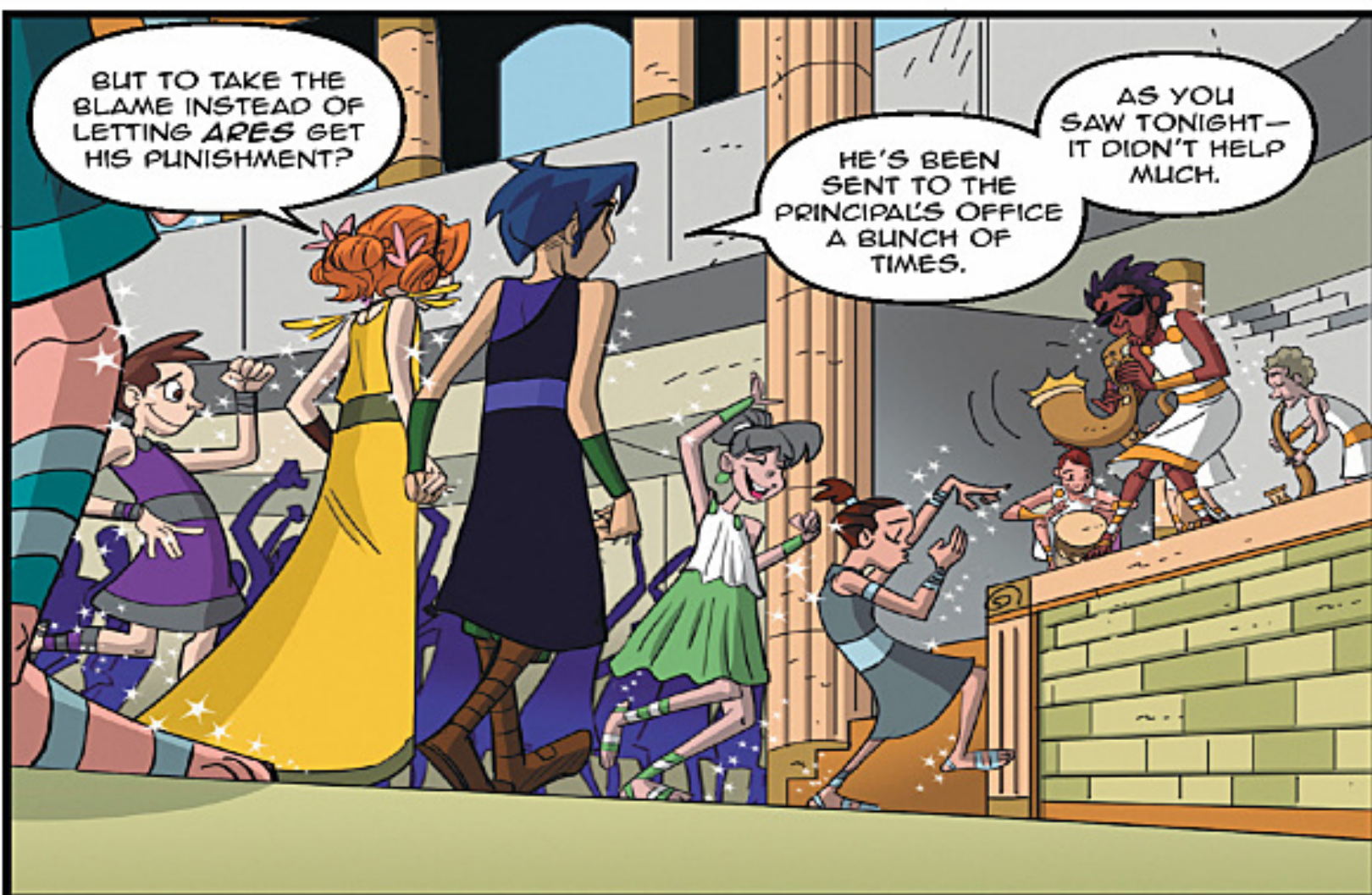
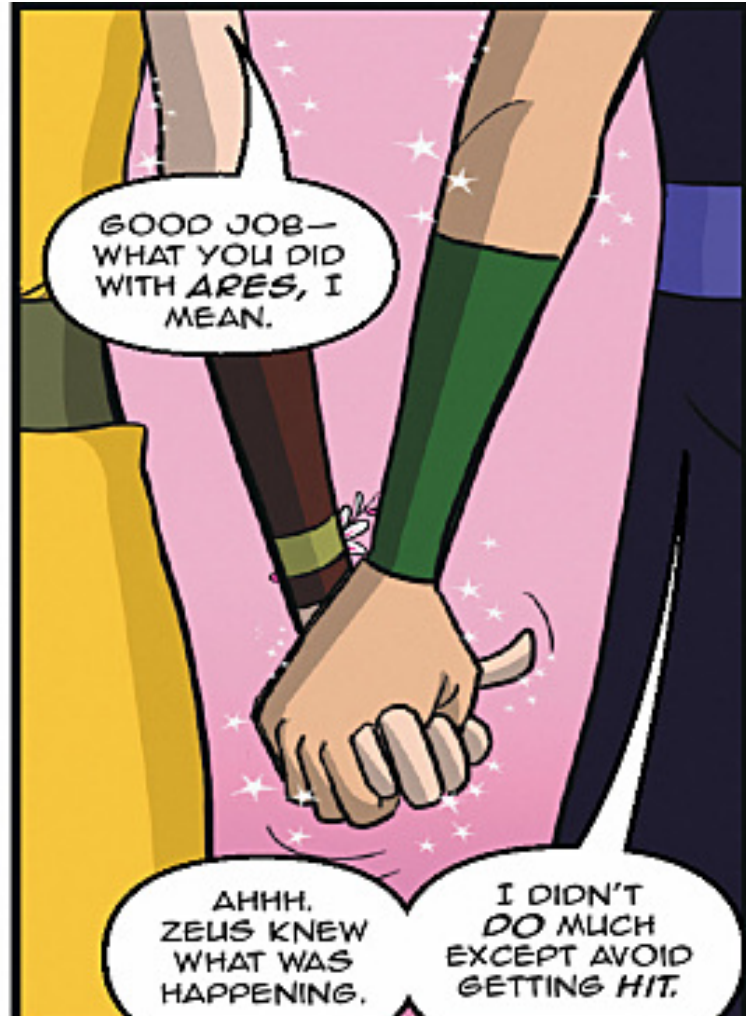


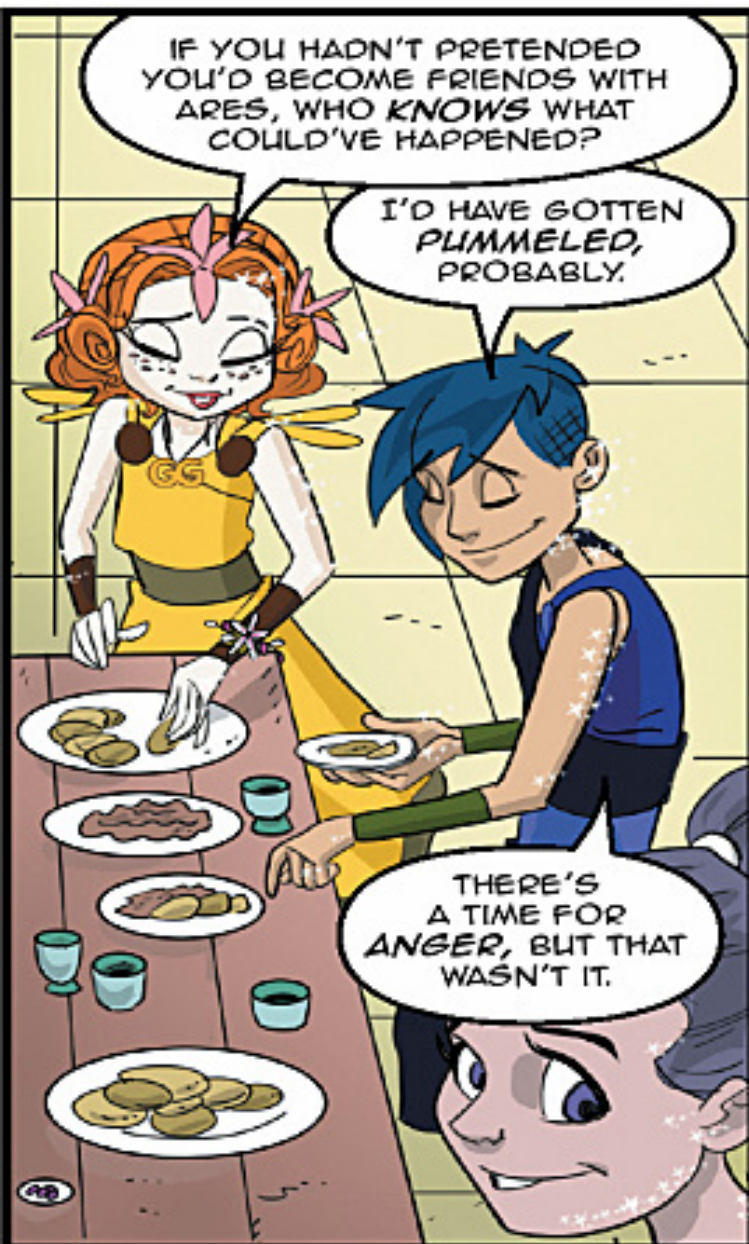


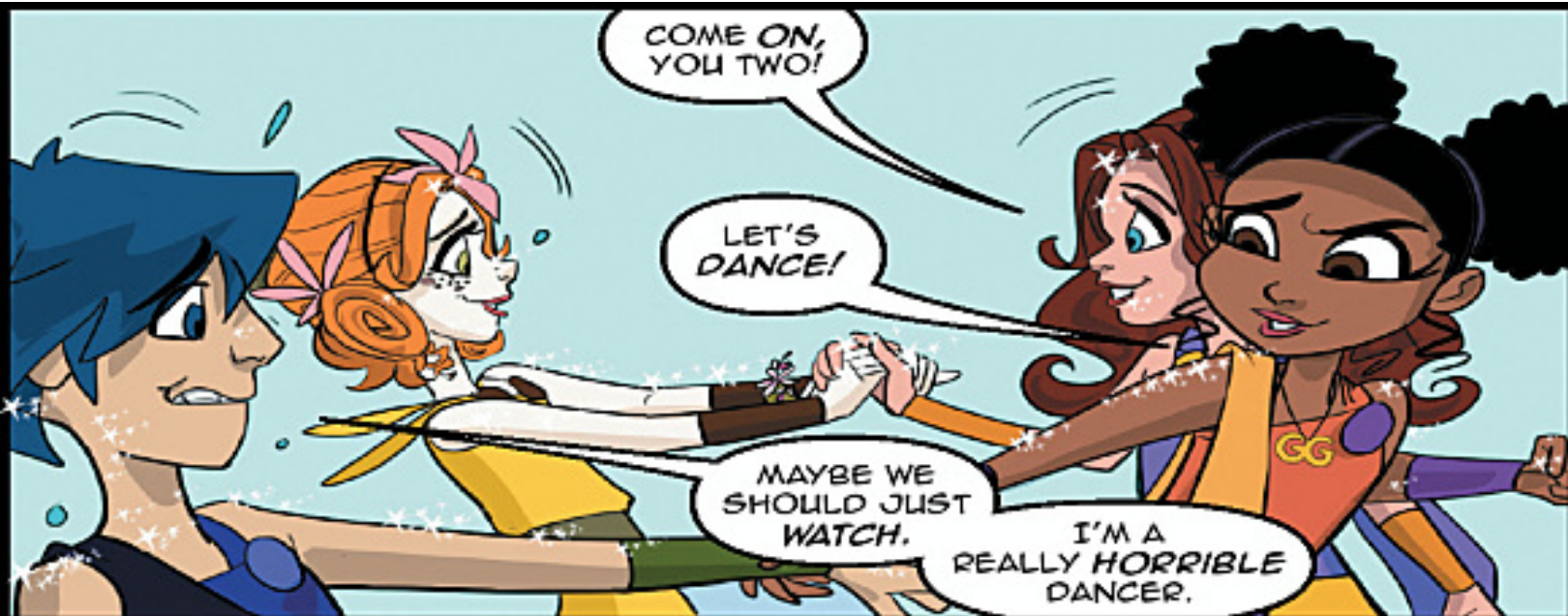












A comic book panel depicting a scene in a courtyard. In the foreground, a boy with blue hair and a blue and dark blue outfit is dancing with a girl who has orange hair and a yellow and dark blue outfit. They are both smiling and looking at each other. The girl is holding a green bottle. In the background, there are other people, including a girl in a purple dress and a boy in a white shirt. The setting is a courtyard with a tiled floor and a building with arches in the background. A sign on the building says "HEAVENS".

IT'LL BE
YOUR OWN FAULT IF
I STEP ALL OVER
YOUR FEET!

YOU KNOW
WHAT?

I'LL
TAKE THAT
CHANCE!

AND I
SPOKE THE
TOTAL
TRUTH!

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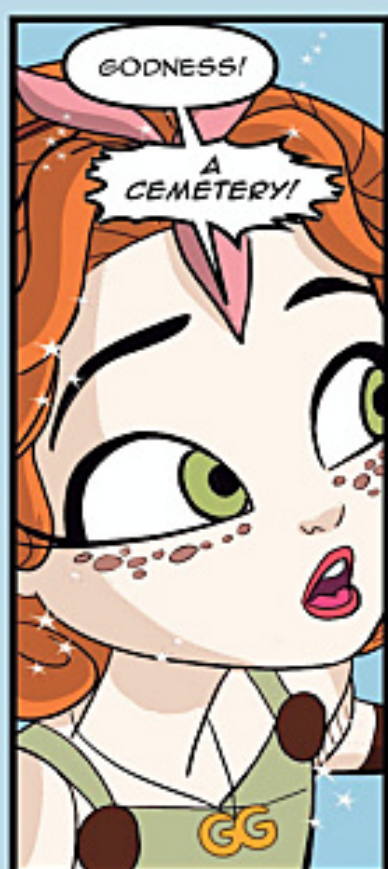
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